

Appendix C

SCOPING REPORT OF COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION

Scoping Report

for the

Suction Dredge Permit Program Subsequent Environmental Impact Report



Prepared by:
California Department of Fish and Game

February 2010

Scoping Report
for the
Suction Dredge Permit Program
Subsequent Environmental Impact Report

This report available online at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/suctiondredge/>

Alternate communication format available upon request. If reasonable accommodation is needed, call Jordan Traverso at (916) 654-9937 or the California Relay (Telephone) Service for the deaf or hearing-impaired from TDD phones at 1-800-735-2929 or 711.

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I. INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the comments and questions raised during the public scoping period for the preparation of a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) being developed by the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) for the Suction Dredge Permit Program (Program).

Scoping is the process of determining the coverage, focus, and content of a SEIR as prescribed by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Scoping helps to identify the range of actions, alternatives, environmental effects, and mitigation measures to be analyzed in depth in the SEIR. It also helps to select methods of assessment, and to eliminate from detailed study those issues that are not important to the decision at hand. Scoping is also an effective way to identify and consolidate the concerns of a project's proponents, interested Federal, State, and local agencies, and other interested parties, including opponents of the project.

The scoping process focused on determining the breadth of all the issues and concerns shared by miners, residents and other interested parties regarding the Program. This report includes written public comments received during the scoping period (November 4, 2009 to December 3, 2009). The report has been circulated with appropriate DFG staff, and will be used to identify important issues for analysis in the SEIR.

Background

The existing regulatory framework governing suction dredge, as administered by DFG, is rooted in statutory amendments to the Fish and Game Code that took effect originally in the late 1980's. Under the statute and associated regulations, any California resident or non-resident may obtain a suction dredge mining permit from DFG upon payment of a fee required by statute. On average, DFG has issued approximately 3,200 suction dredge mining permits to California residents every year for the last 15 years.

DFG's existing regulations governing suction dredge were promulgated after preparing and certifying an environmental impact report (EIR) under CEQA in 1994. DFG considered proposed amendments to the existing regulations governing suction dredge mining in 1997, releasing a draft subsequent environmental impact report for public review that same year. However, the 1997 Draft SEIR was never completed or certified.

Need for Subsequent Environmental Impact Report

A lead agency prepares a SEIR when, after having prepared and certified an earlier EIR for the same project, new information, changed circumstances, or project changes are proposed that involve new significant or substantially more severe environmental effects not previously addressed in the earlier EIR. A SEIR is also appropriate where the prospect of such new or more severe environmental

effects exist and more than minor additions or changes to the earlier EIR are necessary to provide meaningful, updated environmental review.

This project stems from a legal challenge to the existing permitting program initiated in Alameda County Superior Court in May 2005 (*Karuk Tribe of California et al. v. California Department of Fish and Game*). In December 2006, the Alameda County Superior Court issued an order directing the Department to “conduct further environmental review pursuant to CEQA of its suction dredge mining regulations and to implement, if necessary, via rulemaking, mitigation measures to protect Coho salmon and/or other special status fish species in the watershed of the Klamath, Scott, and Salmon rivers, listed as threatened or endangered after the 1994 EIR.” Because DFG determined more than minor changes to the 1994 EIR would be needed, a decision was made to prepare a subsequent or supplemental environmental impact report that would be statewide in scope.

In close coordination with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), DFG is working with a CEQA consulting firm to prepare a SEIR. Public scoping for that effort occurred in November and early December of 2009 and a draft SEIR is anticipated to be available to the public in the fall of 2010. Any proposed updates to the suction dredge mining regulations would also be circulated alongside the draft SEIR.

Moratorium on Suction Dredging

On August 6, 2009, Governor Schwarzenegger signed SB 670 (Wiggins) into law, placing a temporary prohibition on the use of vacuum or suction dredge equipment for instream mining in any California river, stream or lake, regardless of whether the operator has an existing permit issued by DFG. The temporary moratorium affects both individuals and companies that use vacuums or other suction dredging equipment for instream mining in any California river, stream or lake. The temporary moratorium does not apply to suction dredging operations performed for the regular maintenance of energy or water supply management infrastructure, flood control, or navigational purposes.

The ban will remain in effect under SB 670 until three things occur:

1. DFG completes court-ordered environmental review of its permitting program;
2. DFG updates the existing regulations governing the program as necessary; and
3. The updated regulations take effect.

The court-ordered environmental review required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is currently underway and DFG expects to complete the effort, including any updates to the existing regulations, by late summer 2011.

2007 Scoping Process Incorporated in Current Effort

As part of its effort to comply with the December 2006 Court Order, the Department issued a public notice in October 2007, soliciting information regarding the environmental impacts that may occur in California as a result of suction dredge mining under the Department's existing permitting program (Cal. Reg. Notice Register 2007, No. 42-Z, p. 1783, October 19, 2007) (hereafter, the October 2007 Public Notice). In so doing, the Department sought information from interested members of the public and various public agencies relevant to the following issues:

- Whether suction dredge mining results in adverse impacts to the environment;
- Whether suction dredge mining under the Department's current regulations governing such activities results in deleterious effects to fish;
- Whether there are changed circumstances or new information available since 1994 regarding suction dredge mining and the environment generally; and
- Whether changed circumstances or new information available since 1994 indicates that suction dredge mining under the Department's existing regulations is resulting in new significant or substantially more severe environmental impacts than previously considered by the Department in the 1994 EIR.

In response to the October 2007 Public Notice, DFG received comments from approximately 70 federal, state, and local agencies; various tribal, environmental, and mining interests; representatives of the academic and consulting community; and members of the public DFG subsequently determined that a SEIR was necessary and advised the courts accordingly. The 70 comments received in 2007 will be considered as part of the current effort and have been incorporated into this report.

Additionally in 2007, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) solicited comments regarding the effects of suction dredge mining on water quality. Comments were limited to the water quality concerns associated with suction dredge mining. While the SWRCB comment solicitation was not a CEQA process, the comments were reviewed as a part of preparing the Literature Review for this SEIR. The 2007 SWRCB comments are available online at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/comments_suctiondredge.shtml

II. CEQA SCOPING PROCESS

The State of California's CEQA Guidelines provide guidance for the scoping process. Scoping has the following general objectives.

1. *To identify the concerns of the affected public and agencies.*
2. *To define the issues and alternatives that will be examined in detail in the SEIR while simultaneously devoting less attention and time to issues that cause no concern.*
3. *To appropriately scale the overall review process by obtaining early feedback on draft statements of the issues and preliminary findings. Environmental studies and evaluations can then be focused on areas and issues of outstanding concern.*

DFG is committed to a planning process that includes strong public involvement, is based on sound science, and is open and transparent.

Notice of Preparation

CEQA requires formal public announcement of the intent to prepare a SEIR for a proposed project. In compliance with CEQA, the DFG issued a Notice of Preparation (NOP) on October 26, 2009. The NOP presents general background information on suction dredging, the scoping process, the environmental issues to be addressed in the SEIR, and the anticipated uses of the SEIR. Included with the NOP was the Initial Study which provides a preliminary environmental impact analysis for the Program. Through the Initial Study, the range of environmental issues to be addressed in the SEIR will be narrowed down to include only those topics with potentially significant effects. The Initial Study also describes the Program as currently envisioned. The Program (i.e., the regulatory updates) will be refined during the process of preparing the draft SEIR, depending on, among other things, the conclusions of the Initial Study and input received in comments responding to this NOP. The Department prepared the NOP pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15082.

The NOP invited the public to offer comments during the scoping period, which began November 4, 2009 and closed December 3, 2009. A copy of the NOP is provided in Appendix A.

Public Outreach Undertaken

A press release was prepared regarding the meetings and was sent to various radio, television, and print media (Appendix B). Newspaper ads (Appendix C) were prepared and placed in the following publications:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Friday, Nov. 13: | <i>Fresno Bee</i> , Fresno, California |
| Monday, Nov. 16: | <i>Sacramento Bee</i> , Sacramento, California |
| Tuesday Nov. 17: | <i>Redding Record Searchlight</i> , Redding, California |

In addition, a direct mailing (Appendix D) was prepared and sent to all current suction dredge permit holders and other interested parties.

Public Scoping Meetings

Three public scoping meetings were held to allow the general public and cooperating agencies an opportunity to learn about the SEIR process, the proposed project, and ask questions. The meetings were held as follows:

Fresno: Monday, Nov. 16, 5:00 pm

California Retired Teachers Association Building
3930 E. Saginaw Way
Fresno, CA 93726

Sacramento: Tuesday, Nov. 17, 5:00 pm

City of West Sacramento Galleria
1110 West Capitol Ave.
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Redding: Wednesday, Nov. 18, 5:00 pm

Shasta Senior Nutrition Program Center
100 Mercy Oaks Drive
Redding, CA 96003

Meeting Format

The Scoping Meeting opened and closed with an Open House. A formal meeting with presentations and a question and answer period was held in-between.

Open House

At each meeting, an Open House was held from 5 – 6 p.m. and again following the presentations and question and answer period. Workshop stations were staffed by DFG personnel and consultant staff. Attendees were invited to talk one-on-one with staff to ask questions and discuss perspectives. Signage and posters provided additional information. Attendees were advised that comments were not being recorded at the workshop stations – and that attendees should submit any comments in writing. The workshop stations were as follows:

Station 1: Sign-in / Orientation

At this station, sited at the entrance, staff welcomed the public and provided a set of handouts including the agenda, meeting ground rules, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document, a Comment Form, and a 4 x 6 index card. (Appendices E - G). Staff asked the attendees to sign-in and provide contact information for future project-related communications.

Station 2: CEQA Planning Process

Staff at this station explained the general CEQA process and where DFG is at in terms of developing and reviewing the suction dredge permit program. They also described why the SEIR is necessary and discussed the CEQA topics to be evaluated in the document. Staff answered

general questions about the CEQA and rulemaking process, how to engage during the workshop, and encouraged people to visit the other stations, ask questions, and develop scoping comments.

Station 3: Aquatic Biology

Staff at this station provided the public with the definition of “fish” under the Fish and Game Code, and provided some examples related to aquatic biology. They discussed why this topic is important and how the topic is being addressed in the DSEIR. Posters illustrating the life cycle model for an example species and the seasonal timing of and potential effects related to each life stage were displayed.

Station 4: Water Quality / Hydrology

Staff at this station explained why water quality is an important topic, and discussed how the topic is being addressed in DSEIR. The station included a list of impact mechanisms, and a map of key streams in California.

Station 5: Suction Dredge Mining

Staff at this station provided the public with an overview of how suction dredge mining is undertaken and what the current moratorium entails. A poster graphic with an illustration of suction dredging was displayed. FAQs regarding the moratorium were handed out. Copies of the Initial Study were available to anyone who asked for one. Copies of the Literature Review on the Effects of Suction Dredgers were available for review. Finally, staff provided interested suction dredgers with a copy of a draft suction dredge survey for discussion, and to obtain their initial input on the survey content and format.

Scoping Meeting Presentations

The DFG Suction Dredge Permit Program Project Manager, Mark Stopher, opened the scoping meeting around 6 p.m. He welcomed and thanked the public for attending. He presented a brief overview of the project and discussed the current moratorium on dredge mining. Mr. Stopher also presented an overview of the scoping process and the role that attendees can play in the process.

Facilitator Austin McInerny, Center for Collaborative Policy, also welcomed the public. He reviewed the purpose of the meeting, agenda, meeting format, and ground rules. Mr. McInerny expanded on the scoping process. He explained that a report summarizing the issues raised in all written comments received during the public comment period would be completed. He further explained that this report, when finished, would be publicly available and meeting attendees would be notified of its availability. Appendix E presents the standardized meeting agenda used for each meeting.

Michael Stevenson, Project Manager for Horizon Water and Environment, the consulting firm leading the preparation of the SEIR, then presented an overview of the CEQA and rulemaking process, as well as the major conclusions of the Initial Study.

The public was asked to write all questions on an index card and turn them in to the facilitator. Recognizing the large number of attendees, the purpose was to avoid duplicative questions and efficiently provide answers. There was no limit to the questions that an individual could ask, but the facilitator cautioned that time may not permit all questions to be publicly answered. Going

through the cards, the facilitator read a question and the appropriate staff or consultant provided the answer. As it turned out, there was adequate time in all three meetings to address all the questions. All questions submitted are listed in (Appendix H).

Mr. McInerny also reminded the public that while the questions would be included in the scoping report, it was important for concerned parties to submit written comments for consideration in the development of the SEIR. Attendees were encouraged to provide comments in writing either on the blank comment forms that were distributed at the meetings (Appendix G), by U.S. mail after the meetings, or by e-mail to dfgsuctiondredge@dfg.ca.gov.

Participating Staff

The following state agency representatives and supporting consultants participated in one or more of the scoping meeting:

Department of Fish and Game:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Yvette Adams | Mary Mason |
| Nathaniel Arnold | Phi McKay |
| Steven Baumgartner | Rachel McNeal |
| Brian Beal | Julie Means |
| Dennis DeAnda | Carol Oz |
| Michael Dege | Robert Pelzman |
| John Hanson | Mark Stopher |
| Tim Hovey | Jim Whelan |
| Sherry Howell | Scott Willems |
| Stafford Lehr | |

State Water Resources Control Board

Rick Humphreys

Center for Collaborative Policy

Austin McInerny
Jodie Monaghan
Christal Love

Horizon Water and Environment, LLC

Michael Stevenson
Sandy Devoto

Cramer Fish Sciences

Joe Merz

Theta Consulting Services

Tom Trexler

Meeting Attendance

The three meetings were well attended. The public was invited, but not required, to sign in and provide contact information to receive project information in the future. 77 people signed the attendance sheet at the Fresno meeting; 203 people signed the attendance sheet at the Sacramento meeting; 137 people signed the attendance sheet at the Redding meeting. A copy of the sign-in sheets can be found in Appendix I.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED

All written comments received in response to the NOP will be considered during the preparation of the draft SEIR. Collectively, 216 written comments were received via U.S. Mail, email, and hand delivery. The majority of the comments supported the resumption of suction dredging. Many comments were from suction dredge permit holders. There were also a substantial number of comments opposed to suction dredging and/or requesting that suction dredging be permanently banned. All written comments can be found in Appendix J.

In addition, the seventy (70) comments received in response to the October 2007 Public Notice will be considered as part of the current effort.

Review of Scoping Comments Received

To ensure that a neutral, transparent analysis of all public comments was conducted, DFG asked CCP to assist in the review, categorization, and memorialization of all comments. The comments presented reflect only the views of the individual commenter, and do not necessarily represent the views of neither DFG nor the SWRCB.

Through the process of analyzing all the comments, several major themes emerged. The following pages summarize the comments received and report them categorically under the main topics of:

- Key issues relevant to the environmental review;
- Rule making process and approaches to regulatory updates; and
- Issues outside the scope of the environmental review.

A brief summary of the major perspectives that surfaced during the review of all comments include:

1. Almost all dredgers believe that dredging is beneficial to streams and fish based on:
 - a. Observations of fish feeding around dredges;
 - b. No observations of fish mortality as a result of dredging;
 - c. Improved habitat by providing holes, spawning gravel, and cool water areas; and
 - d. Removal of mercury, lead, iron, and trash.
2. Most dredgers believe that “others” cause fish decline including:
 - a. Tribal gill net fishing;
 - b. Recreational and commercial fishing;
 - c. Dam operations; and
 - d. Industrial and agricultural pollution.
3. The term “fish,” as defined by the Fish and Game Code, does not appear to be well understood.

4. A small minority of comments oppose suction dredging on the grounds that it is harmful to fish and other riverine species and the environment.
5. Many believe that special interest groups are behind the moratorium on suction dredging.

Key Issues Relevant to the Environmental Review

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

Aesthetics

- The SEIR should consider that there is, on average, only 1 dredge for every 2,500 miles of rivers and streams in the entire state. That hardly constitutes a “potentially significant impact.”
- The SEIR should consider that the presence of a dredger does not constitute an adverse impact on a scenic vista.
- The SEIR should consider aesthetics from the fish’s point of view. They likely don’t care.
- A few comments suggested aesthetics should consider not only impacts occurring during dredging, but also residual impacts after dredging takes place (discarded hoses, abandoned equipment, ropes left tied to trees/rocks, etc).
- The SEIR should consider the effects of floating garbage (lost gas cans, runaway/abandoned dredges, etc).

Air Quality

- Many comments recommended that the SEIR analyze the actual impacts of suction dredging on air quality. How can 3,000 dredges throughout the state possibly produce emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors with all of the millions of cars and trucks on the road?
- The SEIR should consider that a suction dredge engine does not impede compliance with greenhouse gas emission reductions mandated by SB32.
- The SEIR should consider air quality impacts of mercury vaporization during the gold recovery process.
- Cumulative GHG emission analysis should consider net benefits of suction dredging (i.e. not commuting).

- The odor emitted from suction dredging should be considered a potentially significant impact and evaluated accordingly.

Biological Resources

- The SEIR should consider the effects of dredging on the macroinvertebrates' life cycle - since macroinvertebrates support fish. This impact may be more important to fish than the direct impact of dredging.
- The SEIR should question the impacts to benthic invertebrates. There is limited displacement of insects after passing through a suction dredge. Additionally, recolonization is rapid (within 45 days of dredging).
- The SEIR should consider that adult fish are not acutely affected by entrainment.
- The SEIR should consider the benefits of fine silt on the growth of aquatic bacteria – a food source for young fish.
- The sediment runoff from dredging is too small to produce a bottom “blanket” which might adversely affect young fish eggs.
- By observation, silt and mud do not cause injury to the gills of a fish. Studies have shown that young salmon can live in concentrations of sediment in excess of 760 parts per million (ppm).
- Changing water levels, temperature fluctuations, and varying water flows due to man-made barriers are more deleterious to fish than suction dredging.
- The SEIR should consider studies that show dredge activities do not negatively affect juvenile steelhead and Coho salmon feeding, growth, and production.
- The SEIR should consider removal of the statement “dredge tailings may offer attractive yet potentially less stable material for spawning than natural gravels” - because these are natural gravels. Why would suction dredging change gravel quality? The SEIR should also consider that DFG projects are currently placing gravel that is not as good in the American River at Hazel Ave. below the bridge hatchery to promote spawning beds for salmon.
- Numerous comments requested the SEIR consider the actual effect of impacts of 3,400 miners working an average of 10 days per year versus the millions of visitor days to national forests and other public lands and waterways to fish, camp, raft, backpack, and engage in other recreational activities. The SEIR should consider the relative impacts from dredging and not the cumulative impacts from all recreational activities.
- Numerous comments requested the SEIR consider the adverse impacts from fishing. Fishing kills; dredging does not.

- The SEIR should look at the adverse impacts from miners destroying riparian habitat, destroying spawning beds, and leaving trash on public lands.
- The SEIR should consider the risk to aquatic life being pulled into the intake nozzle is very low as the intake is screened and restricted by a foot valve. The size of material inadvertently pulled into the pump is limited.
- The SEIR should consider banning suction dredging in the critical habitat of any listed or sensitive aquatic species until further analysis or studies prove that suction dredging has no adverse impact on these species.
- The SEIR should evaluate the effects of chronic disturbance on fish as suction dredge activities force fish to move to less favorable habitats.
- The SEIR should consider the anadromous lamprey (Pacific and river) who are particularly susceptible to dredging since ammocoetes spend up to five years in streams before emigration. The ammocoetes preferred habitat is fines and detritus, making them extremely vulnerable to dredging.
- The SEIR should consider freshwater mussels who are extremely susceptible to dredging and are imperiled species in California.
- The SEIR should evaluate disturbances to riparian vegetation, downed woody debris, and large rock/boulders outside the wetted stream surface caused by high-banking, camping, and trail and access route creation.
- The SEIR should use scientific evidence to evaluate the potential to degrade or substantially reduce the habitat of fish and wildlife.
- The SEIR should consider disturbance-related fungal impacts on frog egg masses.
- The SEIR should consider that fish populations remained relatively stable during the 80 year period (1890-1963) when antiquated gold mining activities were doing worse damage.
- Real pollution issues affecting water quality and fish habitat are related to agricultural diversions, dams, industry, logging, and fishing; not suction dredging. In comparison, the overall effects from suction dredging are small and of no consequence.
- The SEIR should characterize locations of thermal refugia in each river and disallow mining in those locations and adjacent buffer zones.
- The SEIR should consider the impacts on plants with cultural and medicinal uses.

- Many comments asked if the effects to the native "fish" (as defined to include benthic animals, mollusks, amphibians, etc) populations by suction dredging will be judged on the basis of specific river basins and those segments of a river delimited by dams. Several comments cited examples of survey research documenting river reaches above dams that are devoid of target anadromous fish species.
- The SEIR should include a new Biological Opinion (BO) to ensure protection of Coho salmon.
- The SEIR should consider the impact of transport of invasive species.
- Several comments asked if suction dredging is deleterious to fish, then fish populations should have correspondingly increased as suction dredge permits have decreased.
- The SEIR should consider the effects to amphibians by the removal of large woody debris through dredging practices.
- The SEIR should include fish stocking as part of the cumulative effects.
- The SEIR should include data that measures or monitors changes in the amount of algae, changes in the amount of plant life, changes in aquatic insect life, and changes in various physical characteristics in water (i.e. pH), dissolved oxygen levels, total nitrogen, total phosphorus, that may or may not occur during suction dredge mining. These are indicators of stream bed health and of the health of the fishery
- The SEIR should consider the impacts to wild trout streams.
- The SEIR should consider the impacts of suction dredging on egg masses and tadpoles of California Red-Legged Frog, Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog, and Foothill Yellow-Legged Frog.
- The SEIR should evaluate heavy metal contamination on fish embryos and the stream benthic community. The Biological Resources checklist in the Initial Study underestimates the problem.

Cultural Resources

- The SEIR should explain how dredging may “disturb human remains.”
- The SEIR should consider the loss of cultural artifacts from historical mining operations.
- The SEIR should consider that “Finds” could also be regarded as a benefit since they can be given to historians for study.

- The SEIR should consider the other effects on culture (activities) by the presence of miners.
- The SEIR should consider the ban of this activity as a loss of a cultural activity.
- The SEIR should discuss the impact of instream suction dredge mining on present-day cultural activities, including traditional ceremonies of Indian people and the use of traditional sites for gathering basketry materials and medicinal plants.
- The SEIR should discuss the cultural impact of the loss of salmon runs which are at the cultural center of some California Indian Tribes.

Geomorphology

- Several comments noted that dredging impacts on channel geomorphology are confined to the area dredged and the area immediately downstream.
- Many comments note that the SEIR should consider that impacts to geomorphology from suction dredging are short-lived and typically repaired by winter flows. No permanent harm is done to dredge sites or downstream users.
- Several comments cited high water events in the last 30 years that have washed away all human impacts and requested the SEIR consider potentially significant impacts in the context of natural and reoccurring events.
- The SEIR should consider the adverse impacts from over-dredging and the transformation of spawning grounds into moonscapes.
- The SEIR should not consider the effects of suction dredging on excavating stream banks. This is an illegal activity and miners do not do this.
- The SEIR should consider that suction dredging can cause changes in stream channel morphology leading to stream channel instability.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

- The SEIR should consider the adverse impacts of instream refueling of suction dredges.
- The SEIR should evaluate the potential hazards of mercury both used and recovered by suction dredge miners. The Hazards and Hazardous Materials checklist fails to discuss fully the potential hazard.
- The SEIR should consider that the “significant hazard” created by the transport, use, and disposal hazardous materials such as gas, oil, nitric acid, mercury, etc. This applies to many other outdoor activities as well as suction dredging.

- The SEIR should consider that very little chemical processing of gold is done in the field. Most miners process their find at home.
- The SEIR should consider that suction dredges can be used to put out fires.
- The SEIR should consider the odor emitted from dredges to be a significant impact.
- The SEIR should consider the impacts of chemicals migrating to rivers via gravity.
- The SEIR should consider sewer and gravel plant spills/outflows; they are the real culprit of river health damage, especially in the Russian River.

Noise

- The SEIR should consider that aquatic life does not seem to be adversely affected by the noise of the dredge.
- The SEIR should consider that the noise produced by suction dredging is inconsequential compared to the noise created by boaters going down the river, yelling, splashing, and slapping their oars on the water.
- The SEIR should consider the adverse impacts of noisy dredge engines intruding on the peaceful tranquility of the outdoors.
- Sound from 2 stroke engines should be considered significant.
- The SEIR should evaluate the noise and vibration impacts on fish and birds from dredging activities in the water, as well as along riparian corridor habitats.

Public Services

- The SEIR should consider that suction dredges can be used to put out fires.
- Police and wardens do not provide enough enforcement of the ban. What enforcement would be provided for new regulations?
- More clarification is needed in the SEIR on illegal activity statistics.

Recreation

- Suction dredging impairs enjoyment by other recreational users and nearby residents (turbidity, sediment, noise, aesthetics, intimidation, garbage); a significant impact. SEIR should identify stream segments where significant densities of suction dredgers are located and provide mitigation to reduce impacts.

- Ban on dredging allows for other recreationalists to visit areas; economic impact can vary and should be considered in the SEIR.
- Dangers posed by dredge holes could be deadly. The SEIR should answer the question: couldn't the Department be held liable in the event of serious injury or death since they are the ones issuing the permits?
- The percentage of the population that is involved in gold dredging is less than .00932% of the total California population. This overall proportion should be reflected in evaluation of all impacts in the SEIR.
- Suction dredging is different than the other types of outdoor activities and recreational programs in California – and should not be considered 'recreational.' The term 'recreational' should be removed as it implies an unimportant and marginal activity.

Water Quality and Toxicology

- Mining debris is chemically inert, makes no oxygen demands on the stream and takes nothing away nothing from the flowing water that the fish need.
- The SEIR should consider that water quality is only impacted during the actual operation of a suction dredge. The average miner operates a suction dredge 2 – 4 hours a day, impacting water quality for a short time.
- The SEIR should not consider the effects of dredging disturbing mercury. Unless you can stop mountain streams from flooding every year, you cannot stop mercury transport.
- The SEIR should consider the adverse impacts of releasing long sequestered mercury into the waterways, posing a risk to wildlife and human health and safety.
- The SEIR should analyze the causal factors of mercury methylation and eliminate suction dredging as a cause of methylation.
- The SEIR should define “floured mercury” and how it occurs. Suction dredging does not break up mercury and pass it through the sluice box; mercury is concentrated into riffles.
- The SEIR should consider that the abiotic-formation of methyl mercury may involve the presence of other methylated metals to serve as potential methyl donors. The possibility that of passing mercury-containing sediments over the riffles in the sluice box will methylate the mercury is highly questionable. Suction dredging may actually reduce the biological formation of methyl mercury through the aeration of sediments.

- The SEIR should consider that the adverse impacts of methyl mercury should be readily identifiable through the definitive impact on sentinel fish, such as sensitive aquatic life. Malformed embryos, reduction in hatch, premature die-off of fry and reduction in adult populations should be readily observable indicators. Test sites within the state would allow DFG to study the issue under controlled conditions. Studying records of fish populations over time could provide similar information.
- The SEIR should further describe the paragraph “Otherwise substantially degrade water quality” (pg. 74, ¶ 3). How can activities have the potential to incrementally degrade water quality and still meet water quality standards? This seems like a contradiction.
- The SEIR should consider the California Department of Public Health, Division of Drinking Water’s chemical data base which records the results of chemical analysis by public water supply systems. The results show that mercury in the mother lode counties is below the detection level for reporting of 1.0 ppb. Suction dredging clearly has a less than significant impact for water downstream of dredge operations.
- The SEIR should consider that jet skis have much bigger pumps than suction dredges – and create greater adverse impacts.
- The SEIR should focus on suction dredge impacts to water quality during low stream flows. There is not enough water to easily dilute or spread the sediment plume/turbidity/pollutants generated by suction dredging.
- The SEIR should consider that most suction dredging on the Klamath River are in areas on California’s 2006 Section 393(d) list of impaired water bodies due to high water temperature, low dissolved oxygen, and excessive nutrients. DFG should restrict or prohibit the use of suction dredging where the beneficial uses of water can be adversely affected.
- The SEIR should consider chemicals that migrate downstream.
- The SEIR should consider the effects on water quality from sewer treatment plants and gravel mining operations in the rivers.
- The SEIR should thoroughly evaluate the re-suspension and release of mercury during suction dredging as a potentially significant adverse impact.
- The SEIR should consider the effect of turbidity on water temperature.
- The SEIR should consider if heavy metals are increasing in fish because they are forming water soluble salts.
- The SEIR should determine the percentage of mercury currently contained in fish.

- The SEIR should review Basin Plans and comply with all applicable polices contained in the plans.
- Certain activities may require permits from the State or Regional Water Boards and should be documented in the SEIR.

Additional Factors not Identified in the Initial Study

- The SEIR should include the category of Land Use / Planning. Prohibiting suction dredging would be a potentially significant impact because it conflicts with the federal land use plan. Most small scale suction dredging takes place on federal public domain lands open to mineral entry under the federal mining laws. The U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management encourage, provide for, and allow mining on federal lands. A mining law expert should be consulted.
- Exclusive right of a claimant is all inclusive and is not limited to locatable materials.
- The moratorium on suction dredging amounts to a “taking.”
- The CEQA process does not mandate socio-economic assessment, but the Siskiyou County Comprehensive Land and Resource Management Plan does – making the SEIR in conflict with local land use plans. Siskiyou County welcomes DFG’s coordination on this project.
- An approved Plan of Operations may be required in USFS lands, as it uses mechanized equipment.
- The SEIR should consider socio-economic impacts on mining equipment manufacturers and local communities serving mining activities (e.g. grocery stores, campgrounds, etc.)
- The SEIR is required to consider economic impacts to determine if the benefits of suction dredging outweigh the unavoidable environmental risks, thereby making the adverse environmental effects “acceptable” (CEQA Title 14, Div. 6, Ch. 3, Art. 7, § 15093 – statement of Overriding Considerations).
- The SEIR should evaluate disturbances to riparian vegetation, downed woody debris, and large rock/boulders outside the wetted stream surface caused by high-banking, camping, and trail and access route creation.
- The SEIR should consider that the South Fork American River Management Plan specifically allows suction dredging and finds no significant adverse impacts.
- The SEIR should consider incorporating a section on Environmental Justice.

- The SEIR should evaluate traffic impacts; they are potentially significant.
- The SEIR should consider the risk to miners' health when dredging during toxic algae blooms.
- The SEIR should include the evaluation of mineral resources.

Benefits of Suction Dredge Operations

- Many comments requested that the SEIR consider the benefits of new pool area created by suction dredging (e.g. thermal refugia creation in dredge holes).
- Dredging can improve the inter-gravel environment for both fish eggs and benthos if the stream is mined in a uniform manner.
- Several comments reported that suction dredging duplicates, on a micro-level, annual winter storms. Numerous peer reviewed scientific articles have found that high water events benefit the environment.
- Many comments noted that dredgers remove trash from rivers and streams as well as the surrounding landscape.
- Miners are not just interested in gold; this is another way to be outdoors and enjoy nature
- Numerous comments noted that dredgers remove toxic lead and elemental mercury from streams. This benefits the food chain. Also, dredging is beneficial for fisheries as evidenced by the reported good salmon fishing on the Klamath and Trinity rivers – both of which are dredged.
- Suction dredging displaces benthic invertebrates that benefit feeding salmon.
- Quite a few comments noted that suction dredging provides a food source for fish at the suction nozzle and around the discharge end of the sluice box. In addition, the displacement uncovers worms, grubs, eels, and other taxa that are a source of food for fish.
- Miners improve the habitat for all creatures living in the water.
- Miners benefit local communities by way of jobs, tourism, retail sales, and generation of sales tax dollars.
- Many comments argued that miners are environmental stewards of the rivers, streams, and land.

- Some miners stated they watch over the land and chase off poachers, snipers, and illegal prospectors.
- Suction dredges can be used as a technique to restore degraded waterways (ecological or restoration mining).
- In areas where dams are located, mining helps to return beds to a more natural state since flows are restricted.
- Suction dredging oxygenates rivers and benefits species and rivers especially during summer months.
- Several comments noted that tourists enjoy seeing gold dredges.

Description of Suction Dredge Activities

- The manufacturers' statement of suction dredge capacity (cubic yard/hour) is overstated. The capacity is based on optimal conditions found only in a test laboratory. Table 2 is inaccurate; the amount of sediment moved by a suction dredge is significantly overstated. Studies by Sterns and Hassler prove that the actual instream capacity of a dredge is less than one-tenth of the advertised capacity.
- Suction dredges take more effort than identified in the Initial Study. Various factors affect dredge capacity including bed substrates, experience, fitness, water flow, clarity, etc. A significant amount of time is spent moving rocks by hand.
- The number of dredges does not necessarily correlate to numbers of permits issued. Many operate in groups using a single machine.
- Engines are not generally run at full power to reduce clogs and to allow the miner to see what they're sucking up. As such, a greater hp engine doesn't equate to an increase in dredge capacity.
- Text and figure description of dredges is archaic and out of date and/or simply incorrect.
- An 8 inch dredge is the norm for all significant rivers and 6 inch nozzle sizes for streams.
- The DEIR should use survey data to get real estimate of acres being mined.

Baseline Conditions

- The baseline of no dredging (in effect at the time of the NOP) conflicts with the previously permitted suction dredging and the definition of the proposed project. Required mitigation can hinge on whether an impact is measured against one or the other.
- The baseline of ‘no dredging’ is not possible to study since the current state of the river systems have been shaped by decades of suction dredging activities. Using this artificial baseline would require the use of hypothetical, non-existent physical conditions since these are not real-world conditions. Thus, this baseline would result in making impacts more adverse or significant than would otherwise be reported.
- The processing fee as stated in the Initial Study should be rechecked. \$450/permit does not sound reasonable.
- Any mining claim discussion should include private land-owner held areas.
- The moratorium does not apply to restoration, maintenance projects, corporations, and suction dredge operations that are already subject to environmental review (e.g. commercial operations). The SEIR should not include such projects.

Scope of Affected Waterways

- The scope of affected waterways should be limited to those rivers (and or counties) where salmon are present or are able to migrate freely (no dams or fish ladders). There are no salmon in the N. Fork Feather River, Yellow Creek, and the Yuba River above Bullards Bar.
- The SEIR should consider that the waterways in California are much diversified; each has its own challenges.
- The SEIR should determine which river segments the Department can affirmatively prove that suction dredging will not cause deleterious impacts to fish.

Environmental Review Process

- The SEIR must be based on peer reviewed scientific studies.
- At least one public hearing on the draft SEIR should be held in the Los Angeles area.

- A public meeting should be held near Klamath River and closer to city of Orleans where the Karuk Tribe is located; public meeting locations should consider the economically disadvantaged.
- DFG should consult with the Northwest California Indian Tribes to consider issues raised in the SEIR.
- The SEIR should explain why the 1997 Draft EIR was not completed or certified. These earlier studies were adequate.
- The SEIR should explain, in detail, the “new significant and substantially more severe environmental impacts that may be occurring under the exiting permitting program that were not addressed by the Department during the prior review completed in 1994.” Volumes of peer reviewed scientific studies have found that the effects of dredging commonly appear to be minor and local.
- How will the assessment of potential adverse effects be applied, as it relates to the evolution on the river system, over what time period? As an example the North Fork of the American was totally different in 1848 with no human intervention, as compared to 1868 after extensive hydraulic mining as compared to 1928 with no dams as to how it is in 2009?
- The SEIR should be based on the 1994 EIR. It is a workable document that protected the environment and dredgers.
- Directing impacts towards ‘illegal’ actions or violations in previously existing regulations, demonstrates the bias the EIR has. The document should focus on actual impacts, not illegal activities.
- DFG should consult with federal agencies that have statutory authority over some of the project area. Those agencies include the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.
- Two weeks is inadequate time for meaningful comments to be submitted in response to the scoping meetings. Most of the public was unaware of the 30-day comment period until the scoping meetings – leaving only two weeks to submit comments.
- Many comments requested that the environmental review process take an unbiased view of suction dredge activities. The initial study appears to vilify miners.
- Many questioned whether DFG has the legal authority to regulate any suction dredging operations other than in-stream. The scope of the Initial Study exceeds the boundaries of DFG’s authority. All impacts relating to accessing the site (e.g. aesthetics, Air Quality, geology and soils, etc.) are outside the scope of instream environmental impacts.

- The SEIR should consider that adequate measures are in place already to protect the environment.
- The SEIR should evaluate actual harm from significant impacts, not potential harm from possible impacts.
- Several comments suggested that DFG staff should be required to study the workings of a dredging operation first-hand. The benefit would be to understand mining operations and witness the “adverse impacts.” Only then can effective and workable regulations be developed.
- Program objectives should include SWQRCB’s compliance duties and DFG’s obligation to comply with FGC 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement.
- The SEIR should include high-banking and other excluded activities as they may have instream impacts
- Site-specific level of analysis should be conducted.
- The environmental review process should include other state agencies such as State Water Resources Control Board, Department of Toxic Substances Control and the California Air Resources Board instead of saying that impacts or regulation of impacts are beyond DFG’s authority to regulate.
- The SEIR should include information on conflicting existing laws and other permitting programs.

Levels of Significance of Impacts

- The SEIR should use scientific evidence to evaluate the potential to degrade or substantially reduce the habitat of fish and wildlife.
- The initial study’s description of “deleterious effect” does not adequately address the subject of environmental threat, for which a much lower threshold will be required. The threshold of significance must include cumulative effects in the context of previous serious environmental effects, which must be adequately analyzed.

Validity and Inclusion of Scientific Studies

- Studies used to evaluate impacts should be California-based studies. Studies done in other states are irrelevant to California.
- The 2005 Water Board mercury dredge study does not constitute scientific evidence.

- The 2003 Water Board Mercury study was done in a mercury hotspot – which is not typical of many mined areas. Also the study did not use ‘miners moss,’ a common component in most all dredges. This would have increased the capture of mercury in the study.
- DFG should conduct real-time suction dredge studies over an extended timeframe to determine the true impact of suction dredging and develop Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- The SEIR should use control studies of northern CA fish from watersheds that do not allow suction dredging for comparison of effects.
- Previous studies conducted for the 1994 and 1997 EIRs are conclusive and show no adverse effects. These should continue to be used in this report.
- Scientific literature/studies used for 1994 EIR are outdated and more updated information should be used for this report.
- The SEIR should consider the following studies (Note – only studies mentioned in the comment letters but not already cited in the Literature Review (September, 2009) have been included):

Huber, C. and D. Blanchet, 1992, Water quality cumulative effects of placer mining on the Chugach National Forest, Kenai Peninsula, 1988-1990, U.S. Forest Service, Chugach National Forest, Alaska Region.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2001, Fact Sheet NPDES Permit AKG-37-5000, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, Alaska Operations Office.

Prussian, Royer, Minsall, 1999. Impact of suction dredging on water quality, benthic habitat, and biota in the Fortymile River, Resurrection Creek, and Chatanika River, Alaska. Prepared for the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, Alaska Operations Office.

Cooley, 1995, USFS. Siskiyou National Forest Service Yardage Estimate, A comparison of stream materials moved by mining suction dredge operations to the natural sediment yield rates. In house Report.

Washington State Dept. of Ecology, March 2005, *Effects of small-scale gold dredging on arsenic, copper, lead, and zinc concentrations in the Simikameen River.*

Bayley, Peter B. April 2003 Siskiyou National Forest study for the Department of Fish and Wildlife at Oregon State University.

Konopacky Environmental. 1996. Effects of Recreational Suction Dredge Operations on Fish and Fish Habitat: A literature review in Association with a Petition of the Idaho Gold Prospectors Association to the Idaho Land Board.

Roberts, B. and White, R. Effects of Angler Wading on Survival of Trout Eggs and Pre-emergent Fry. USFWS, Montana.

Donaldson, Edward. Reproductive Indices as Measures of Effects of Environmental Stressors in Fish. British Columbia, Canada.

Bouck, G. and Robert Ball. Influence of Capture methods on Blood Characteristics and Mortality in the Rainbow Trout.

Anderson, Douglas. Immunological Indicators: Effects of Environmental Stress on Immune Protection and Disease Outbreaks.

Ward, Henry Baldwin. 1938. Placer Mining on the Rogue River, Oregon, in its Relation to the Fish and Fishing in that Stream.

Harn, S., Dunn, R, & Keene, P, 2009. *The economic impact of suction dredging in California*, ICMJ Prospecting and Mining Journal, v.79, n.2, pgs. 37-38.

Cumulative Impacts

- Many comments suggested that suction dredging is not responsible for the decline of salmon. A substantial number of comments deny killing fish. The SEIR should evaluate only the adverse effects directly attributable to miners – not the cumulative adverse impacts resulting from recreational and commercial anglers, net fishing, pollution, and water management regimes.
- The SEIR should consider the negative impacts from dams without fish ladders on spawning salmonids rather than attributing the adverse impacts to suction dredging. (Including barrier effects and turbidity during water releases)
- The SEIR should consider that suction dredging and recreational activities can co-exist. Rafting guides often stop at dredges on the South Fork of the American River to show clients the gold operation. Anglers would likely find better fishing right behind the dredge.
- The SEIR should consider the effects of El Nino and climate change on salmonids populations. The resulting higher water temperatures have contributed to the salmonids population decline.
- The SEIR should consider the effect of pinnipeds preying on the salmonids – resulting in the current decline of fish populations.

- The threshold of significance must include cumulative effects in the context of previous serious environmental effects, which must be adequately analyzed.
- The SEIR should consider the impacts from other water dependent recreational opportunities and compare them to suction dredging to evaluate the level of significance attributable to suction dredging.
- The SEIR should consider the adverse impacts of brown trout on salmonids.

Definition of “deleterious to fish” and Related Issues

- The SEIR should consider changing the definition of “fish:” to reflect aquatic life with gills and fins. Including other aquatic life causes confusion and mis-assigns cause and effect.
- The Initial Study’s description of “deleterious effect” does not adequately address the subject of environmental threat, for which a much lower threshold will be required.
- The SEIR should consider that recreational fishing is significantly more deleterious to fish than dredge mining.
- There has been a steady decline in the number of dredges in the Salmon River. If dredges are deleterious to fish, the fish populations should have increased each year as the number of dredgers decreased.
- Several comments mentioned that deleterious means harmful, a far lower standard than disastrous. The SEIR should clearly state the definition of the word, consistent with the legal definition of the word “deleterious,” and assess impacts accordingly.
- Several comments suggested the Department should require that “deleterious effects” mean an appreciable and negative impact on populations of listed species – a substantial reduction in the range of any species or extirpation of a population. (i.e. not individuals or population units smaller than those defined for purposes of state or federal ESAs).
- The definition of “deleterious effects” should be expanded to include species that are not covered by the ESA.
- The SEIR should consider changing the definition of “fish: to reflect aquatic life with gills and fins. Including other aquatic life causes confusion and mal-assigns cause and effect.
- The definition of “fish” should be clarified to include all biological management indicators such as benthic macroinvertebrates and amphibians (all life stages).

Socioeconomics

- The proposed socio-economic survey presented at the scoping meetings should include businesses serving miners as well as the miners themselves.

Rule making process and approaches to the regulatory updates

- Dredge mining regulations should make miners aware of instream habitat needs of salmonids, reducing the most serious impacts of suction dredge mining. Current DFG regulations in Canyon Creek eliminate the conflict with salmonid spawning, incubation, and fry emergence by restricting the window of opportunity to suction dredge.
- Small suction dredge operations should be limited to nozzle sizes of 6” or less to minimize impacts to turbidity, water quality, and disturbance of macroinvertebrate communities.
- Regulations should require a polypropylene pad or other appropriate spill protections and a funnel or spill-proof spout when re-fueling to prevent possible contamination of surface waters or groundwater – per Oregon’s requirements for suction dredge permit holders.
- Provide mercury and lead collection sites.
- Many comments recommended limiting the dredging season in small creeks to a period of May 15 to October 1 to avoid the spawning season.
- Dredgers should be required to clean the gravel they displace to provide appropriate spawning areas for salmonids.
- Regulations should require that large rocks or boulders (greater than 3ft) be replaced to reduce impacts on geomorphology and aesthetics.
- The regulations consider closure of various streams throughout the state that lie in areas affected by fires from the past season. Potential mud and debris flows are expected to result in significant impacts to stream course and the biota dependent on them.
- Restrict suction dredging during low flows when the greatest damage to streams can occur.

- Mining claims not within a club area protect the river by distributing and limiting the adverse affects. Consider limiting the density of dredgers in a club area. Consider limiting the area of clubs.
- The mining community should monitor it's own by enforcing DFG regulations.
- Removing trees should be illegal as it undermines banks.
- Regulations should include a statement that any found shipwrecks be monitored jointly with an archeologist.
- Dredges should be environmentally friendly designs using headerless boxes, deairation flaps, flarejet introductions systems, over under classification and solids return underwater to increase fines retention, prevent aeration, and decrease turbidity.
- A permanent working committee should be established to address dredging issues. In addition, the committee could mobilize dredgers to assist DFG with reclamation projects.
- Stricter regulations are preferable to a complete prohibition of suction dredging.
- Several comments suggested that DFG staff should be required to study the workings of a dredging operation to understand mining operations and witness the “adverse impacts” impacts first hand. Only then can effective and workable regulations be developed.
- Limit dredges to 4” on creeks.
- Require non-resident dredgers to have a claim before they can buy a permit.
- DFG should consider creating a dredging class to educate miners on the regulations. The class should be required before a permit is issued.
- DFG should work with mining clubs such as the New 49ers and the Lost Dutchman Assoc. to observe mining operations and create effective regulations.
- Restrict suction dredging on waterways that are a domestic water supply.
- Restrict suction dredging on all wild and scenic areas.
- The regulations should provide for greater enforcement. If there is inadequate enforcement staff, the program should be limited to what can financially/realistically be enforced.
- Require catchpans for all dredges to reduce impacts of leaks or spills

- The regulations should include inspections.
- Suction dredging should be restricted where beneficial uses of water can be negatively affected.
- Permit fees should be based on dredge nozzle size.
- Permit fees should be increased to reflect the increase in gold values (Resident: \$100 per nozzle inch per week, non-resident: \$150 per nozzle inch per week)
- The U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management should be involved in the development of regulations, fees, and enforcement
- Each permit issued should undergo CEQA review
- Permit conditions should impose and require a mandatory protocol for hazardous materials handling and transport.
- Permit dredges with stickers for easier enforcement.
- Regulations should have a valid scientific-based reason for closing a stream. An area should not be closed simply because it is in a designated wilderness area.
- Habitats critical for daily survival, including thermal refugia areas, should be protected under any new regulations.
- Regulate dredging methods to be more environmentally friendly such as putting gravel and cobbles in separate piles and not panning concentrates back into the water.
- Propane fueled engines, better portable tank to engine tank transfer systems, battery driven electrics, or some type of inspection fee to make dredges compliant would be more prudent than shortening the season or reducing hose size.
- Regulations should limit out-of-state permits to those holding a valid claim.
- Regulations should include prevention programs for terrestrial and aquatic invasive species.

Issues Outside of the Scope of the Environmental Review

Supremacy of Federal mining law

- Many comments cited the supremacy of the U.S. Mining Laws of 1866 and 1872, and challenged DFG' authority to impose regulations, much less a moratorium, on federal public domain lands.

Reimbursement of permit fees

- Numerous comments requested reimbursement of suction dredge permit fees to compensate the loss of use due to the moratorium on suction dredging.

Other economic issues

- Many comments requested compensation for loss of property rights (i.e. mining claims) and loss of income as a result of the moratorium.

Other issues

- The SEIR should consider mercury removal in the San Francisco Bay.
- The SEIR should consider the impacts from other water dependent recreational opportunities and compare them to suction dredging to evaluate the level of significance attributable to suction dredging.
- The SEIR should make a distinction between recreational dredgers and mining claim owners when analyzing impacts.
- Salmon that make it up the river a certain distance should be able to exist without human interference.
- The number of fishing licenses should be limited each year and in indirect proportion to the number of fish taken by the tribes.
- Referring to dredgers as “hobbyists” makes it seem like it is a small thing to take away the right.
- Rescind the moratorium during the SEIR study period.

- Dams restrict the natural flow of rivers, allowing algae to grow. Removal of dams would restore natural flow and create the best habitat for fish.
- Seek a 200-mile fishing limit for foreign fishing vessels to reduce the depletion of salmon populations.
- Dams restrict the natural flow of rivers, allowing algae to grow. Removal of dams would restore natural flow, minimize algae growth, and create habitat for fish.
- The moratorium on suction dredging should be limited to water with salmon populations.
- The SEIR should consider the adverse impacts of brown trout on salmonids.
- The SEIR should consider a program for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to dredge the entrances to lower basin tributaries to allow fish passage into streams that are normal spawning grounds for Coho salmon.
- The SEIR should evaluate the efficacy of closing fish ladders to the hatcheries and allowing salmonids to find alternative sites to spawn naturally, making their offspring “wild.”

APPENDICES

Notification and Scoping Meeting Materials

- Appendix A: Notice of Preparation / Initial Study
- Appendix B: Media Notification List and Press Release
- Appendix C: Scoping Meeting Newspaper Ad
- Appendix D: Direct Mail Postcard
- Appendix E: Scoping Meeting Agenda
- Appendix F: Scoping Meeting PowerPoint Presentation
- Appendix G: Comment Form
- Appendix H: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Scoping Meeting Attendees

- Appendix I: Sign-in sheets from Fresno, Sacramento, and Redding scoping meetings

Input Received During Scoping Period

- Appendix J: Questions Submitted at Scoping Meetings (from index cards)
- Appendix K: Written Comments from:
 - Federal Agencies, State Agencies, and Local Agencies
 - Non-governmental Private Organizations
 - Private Citizens

Appendix A- Initial Study and Notice of Preparation

[[Please refer back to **Appendix B** of this Draft EIR]]

APPENDIX B

DFG News Release

Public Scoping Meetings Held to Receive Comments on Suction Dredge Permitting Program

November 2, 2009

Contact:

Mark Stopher, Environmental Program Manager, 530.225.2275

Jordan Traverso, Deputy Director, Office of Communications, Education and Outreach, 916.654.9937

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) is holding public scoping meetings for input on its suction dredge permitting program. Three meetings will provide an opportunity for the public, interested groups, and local, state and federal agencies to comment on potential issues or concerns with the program. The outcome of the scoping meetings and the public comment period following the scoping meetings will help shape what is studied in the Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR).

A court order requires DFG to conduct an environmental review of the program under the California Environmental Quality Act. DFG is currently prohibited from issuing suction dredge permits under the order issued July 9. In addition, as of August 6, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's signing of SB 670 (Wiggins) places a moratorium on all California instream suction dredge mining or the use of any such equipment in any California river, stream or lake, regardless of whether the operator has an existing permit issued by DFG. The moratorium will remain in effect until DFG completes the environmental review of its permitting program and makes any necessary updates to the existing regulations.

The scoping meetings will be held in Fresno, Sacramento and Redding. Members of the public can provide comments in person at any of the following locations and times:

Fresno: Monday, Nov. 16, 5 p.m.

California Retired Teachers Association Building
3930 E. Saginaw Way
Fresno, CA 93726

Sacramento: Tuesday, Nov. 17, 5 p.m.

City of West Sacramento Galleria
1110 West Capitol Ave.
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Redding: Wednesday, Nov. 18, 5 p.m.

Shasta Senior Nutrition Program Center
100 Mercy Oaks Drive
Redding, CA 96003

Written comments must be postmarked by December 3, 2009 and may be submitted, either by e-mail to dfgsuctiondredge@dfg.ca.gov or by regular mail to:

Mark Stopher
California Department of Fish and Game
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001

For more information about these meetings, the suction dredge program or to view the Initial Study and supporting documents, please visit <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/suctiondredge/>.

**DFG Media Distribution List
November 2009**

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| Asian Journal/Philippines Today | California Flyfisher |
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| Associated Press/San Diego | California State Parks |
| Associated Press/San Francisco | California Today |
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| Atwater Signal | California's Gold |
| Auburn Journal | Californian |
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| Balita Media | Canyon News |
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| Barry Gordon From Left Field | Castro Valley Forum |
| Barstow Log | Catholic Herald |
| Bass & Walleye Boats | Catholic San Francisco |
| Bass West USA | Central Coast Farm & Ranch |
| Bass West USA | Chalcedon Report |

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| Champion Newspapers | Desert USA |
| Chester Progressive | DFG News |
| Chico Enterprise-Record | DFG Volunteer Hunter Ed Instructor |
| Chico News & Review | Diario San Diego |
| Chico News & Review | Digital News Channel |
| Chinese News | Dixon Tribune |
| City News Service | Dixon's Independent Voice |
| City Visions | Down In the Valley-KFCF/Fresno |
| Claremont Courier | Downey Patriot |
| Classicer | Downtown News |
| Clayton Pioneer | Drive With Steve Jackson |
| Cloverdale Reveille | Eagle Newspapers |
| Coalinga Recorder | Earth Island Journal |
| Coast Chronicle (KWAV) | Earth Justice - In Brief |
| Coast Magazine | East Bay Express |
| Coast News Group | East Bay Express |
| Coast News Group | East Bay Monthly |
| Coast News Group | East County Gazette |
| Coastal Community Newspapers | East County Herald |
| Coastal Post Monthly/Bolinas | East County Herald |
| Coastline Pilot | East County Times |
| Colfax Record | East Palo Alto Today |
| Colusa County Sun-Herald | Eastern Group Publications |
| Community Calendar | Easy Reader |
| Community News | Ecobyte |
| Community Newspapers | Ecology Hour |
| Community Newspapers | Ecology Law Quarterly |
| Community Spin (KZIQ) | Econews |
| Commuter Times | EcoNews Report |
| Compton Bulletin-Carson Bulletin-Wilmington | Editor's Roundtable |
| Beacon-The Californian | El Aviso |
| Concerning San Diego-KYXY | El Aviso |
| Continental News Service | El Bohemio News |
| Contra Costa Times | El Clasificado |
| Contra Costa Times | El Gigante Hispano |
| Core Media Group | El Hispano |
| CRN/Cable Radio Network | El Informador del Valle |
| CRN/Cable Radio Network | El Mensajero |
| Cronicas | El Mexicano |
| Cupertino Courier | El Mexicano de Santa Barbara |
| Current TV | El Observador/San Jose |
| Daily Breeze | El Popular |
| Daily Independent | El Segundo Herald Newspapers |
| Daily Midway Driller | El Semanario |
| Daily News | El Semanario |
| Daily News Publications/San Mateo | El Tecolote |
| Daily Pilot | El Tiempo/Santa Maria |
| Danville Weekly | Elk Grove Citizen |
| Darling | En Contexto |
| Davis Enterprise | Encontro |
| Desert Dispatch | Environment and Behavior |
| Desert Mobile Home News | Environment Show-KMUD |
| Desert Sun | Environmental Forensics |
| Desert Sun | Environmental Forensics |
| Desert Sun | Eureka Times-Standard |
| Desert Sun | Eureka Times-Standard |
| Desert Sun Newspapers-Bermuda Dunes | Fairfield Daily Republic |

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| Fairfield Daily Republic | Hesperia Star |
| Farandula USA | Hi Sierran |
| Ferndale Enterprise | Hi-Desert Star |
| Filipino Press | Hi-Desert Star |
| Fish Sniffer | Highland Community News |
| Fish Taco Chronicles | Highway Radio Stations (7) |
| Five Cities Times Press-Recorder Publishing | Hispanos Unidos |
| Foothills Sentry | Hispanos Unidos |
| Foothills Sun-Gazette | Hollister Pinnacle |
| For Your Information | Hometown Bulletin |
| Forum For A Better Understanding | Hometown/Tribune Publishing |
| Forum on KQED/San Francisco | Hoopa Valley People |
| Four O'Clock Tuesdays with Gustavo Arellano | Hopper in the Morning |
| Free Lance | Hoy |
| Freelance Writer | Hoy Por Hoy (radio show) |
| Freelance Writer | Humboldt Beacon |
| Freelance Writer | Huntington Beach Independent |
| Freelance Writer | Huntington Beach Independent |
| Freelance Writer | Impacting Your World -KECR-AM |
| Freelance Writer | Impacto USA |
| Freelance Writer | Imperial Valley Press |
| Freelance Writer | In Brief/Oakland |
| Freelance Writer | In Our Backyard |
| Freelance Writer | Independent Coast Observer |
| Freelance Writer | Independent |
| Freelance Writer | India Currents |
| Freelance Writer-Photographer | India Post |
| Freelance Writer-Photographer | India West |
| Freelance Writer-Photographer | Inglewood Today |
| Fremont Argus | Inglewood Today |
| Fresno Bee | Inland Empire Community Newspapers |
| Frost | Inland Empire News Radio Network |
| Gardena Valley News | Inland Empire Weekly |
| Gazette Newspapers | Inland Valley News |
| Georgetown/Auburn Papers | Inside San Diego (KUSI-TV) |
| Gilroy Dispatch | Insight-KXJZ/Sacramento |
| Glendale News-Press | interested citizen |
| Gold Country Times | Intermountain News |
| Golden Eagle | Irish Herald |
| Good News Publishers | Jewish Community Chronicle |
| Good Times of Santa Cruz County | Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles |
| Grapevine Independent | Jewish News Weekly of Northern CA |
| Grass Valley Union | Jewish Voice |
| Grass Valley Union | Journal of Environmental Economics and Management |
| GreenWire/SF | KAAT-FM/Fresno |
| Gridley Herald | KABC-AM/Los Angeles |
| Gridley Herald | KABC-TV 7/Los Angeles |
| Gringo Gazette | KABC-TV 7/Los Angeles |
| Guardian - Los Angeles Bureau | KABC-TV 7/Los Angeles |
| Guns & Ammo | KABC-TV 7/Los Angeles |
| Guns & Ammo | KABC-TV 7/Los Angeles |
| Guns Magazine | KABE-TV/Bakersfield |
| Half Moon Bay Review | KAEF-TV 23/Eureka |
| Hanford Sentinel | KAFY-KBYN-KCFA-KNTO/Hughson |
| Hayward Daily Review | KAHI-AM/Auburn |
| Hayward Daily Review | KAKX-FM |
| Healdsburg Tribune & Windsor Times | KALW-FM |

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| KALX-FM/Berkeley | KCRZ-FM |
| KAMB-FM | KCSB-FM/Santa Barbara |
| KARM-FM/Fresno | KCSM/Santa Barbara |
| KATD-KEST/San Francisco | KCSN-FM/Northridge |
| KATJ-FM | KCSO-TV 33/Modesto |
| KATM-KHOP/Modesto | KCSS-FM/Turlock |
| KATY-FM/Palm Springs | KCTC-KDND-KRXQ-KSEG/Sacramento |
| Kaweah Commonwealth | KCWR-FM/Bakersfield |
| Kaweah Commonwealth | KDAR-FM |
| KAXL-FM | KDB-FM/Santa Barbara |
| KAZA-TV | KDES-KGAM-KPSI/Palm Springs |
| KAZU-FM/Seaside | KDFC-FM |
| KBAK-TV/Bakersfield | KDFX-TV /Palm Desert |
| KBAY-FM/San Francisco | KDKL-KLVM-KHKL-KLVC-KLVJ-KLVR |
| KBBY-KHAY-KVEN-KVYB/Ventura | KDON-FM/Salinas |
| KBFP-AM & FM/Bakersfield | KDTV-TV 14/San Francisco |
| KBFX-TV 29/Bakersfield | KDUC-KDUQ-KSZL-KXXZ/Barstow |
| KBHR-FM | KDVS-FM/UC Davis |
| KBHR-FM | KEBR-KFRB-KHAP-KPRA/Sacramento |
| KBIF-AM | Kensington Outlook |
| KBLF-AM/Red Bluff | KEPD-FM/Ridgecrest |
| KBLX-FM/San Francisco | Kern County at Large |
| KBMB-FM/Sacramento | KERN-AM/Bakersfield |
| KBNT-TV/San Diego | KERO-TV 23/Bakersfield |
| KBOQ-FM/Monterey | KerWest Publishers |
| KBOX-FM | KESQ-TV/Palm Springs |
| KBOX-FM/Santa Maria | KEVC-TV/Palm Desert |
| KBRE-FM | KEXA-FM |
| KBRT-AM | KEY News in Focus-KEYT |
| KBWF-FM | KEYQ-KMRO/Camarillo |
| KBZT-FM/San Diego | KEYT-TV |
| KCAL-TV 9/Los Angeles | KEZN-FM |
| KCAL-TV 9/Los Angeles | KEZR-FM/San Jose |
| KCAQ-KUNX-KVTA/Ventura | KEZY-KLTX/Pasadena |
| KCBB & KMSG-TV/Fresno | KEZY-KTLX/Pasadena |
| KCBC-AM | KFAX-AM |
| KCBQ-AM | KFBK Outdoors |
| KCBQ-AM | KFBK-KSTE/Sacramento |
| KCBS & KFRC/San Francisco | KFFG-KFOG/San Francisco |
| KCBS-FM/Los Angeles | KFI-AM |
| KCBS-TV | KFI-AM 640/LA-Kennedy & Suits |
| KCBS-TV 2/Los Angeles | KFI-AM/Los Angeles |
| KCCE-TV | KFI-AM/Los Angeles |
| KCCL-FM/Sacramento | KFIV-AM/Modesto |
| KCDZ-FM/Joshua Tree | KFJC-FM |
| KCEO-AM | KFMB-AM & FM/San Diego |
| KCET-TV 28/Los Angeles | KFMB-TV |
| KCET-TV 28/Los Angeles | KFMB-TV 8/San Diego |
| KCIV-FM | KFMB-TV 8/San Diego |
| KCLU-AM & FM | KFMI-KGOE-KKHB-KRED/Eureka |
| KCNQ-KQAB-KVLI/Kernville | KFNO-FM |
| KCOP-TV 13/Los Angeles | KFOG Morning Show |
| KCOY-TV12/Santa Maria | KFPR-FM |
| KCRA-TV3/Sacramento | KFPR-KCHO/CSU Chico |
| KCRE-FM/Crescent City | KFRE & KMPH-TV/Fresno |
| KCRH-FM | KFRG-KRAK-KVFG-KXFG/Hesperia |
| KCRW-FM/Santa Monica | KFRG-KRAK-KVFG/Hesperia |

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| KFRN-AM | KJUG-AM & FM/Visalia |
| KFSD-AM | KJZY-FM/Santa Rosa |
| KFSH-FM/Glendale | KKBB-KSMJ-KNZR/Bakersfield |
| KFSN-TV | KKBN-FM |
| KFSR-FM | KKCY-FM |
| KFTL-TV/Oakland | KKDV-FM |
| KFTV-TV/Fresno | KKEY-TV/Bakersfield |
| KFUT-KNWQ-KNWZ/Palm Springs | KKFS-FM/Sacramento |
| KFWB-AM/Los Angeles | KKGN-AM/San Francisco |
| KFWB-AM/Los Angeles | KKGO-FM/Los Angeles |
| KFWB-AM/Los Angeles | KKIQ-FM/Pleasanton |
| KGAM-AM/Palm Springs | KKJG-FM |
| KGBA-FM/EI Centro | KKJL-AM |
| KGBB-KRAJ/Ridgecrest | KKJZ-FM |
| KGEN-AM & FM/Tulare | KKLA-KTIE/Los Angeles |
| KGEO-KISV-KKXX/Bakersfield | KKMC-AM |
| KGET-TV 17/Bakersfield | KKUP-FM |
| KGFM-FM/Bakersfield | KKXX-AM |
| KGGI-FM/Riverside | KLAX-FM/Los Angeles |
| KGIL-AM/Los Angeles | KLBS-AM |
| KGMC-TV/Fresno | KLFF-AM |
| KGO-TV 7/San Francisco | KLFF-FM |
| KGO-TV 7/San Francisco | KLIV-AM/San Jose |
| KGPE-TV 47 CBS/Fresno | KLJR-FM |
| KGTV-10/San Diego | KLLC-FM/San Francisco |
| KHCS-FM | KLLE-FM/Fresno |
| KHDC-KMPO-KTQX | KLLY-FM |
| KHHT-FM | KLOA-FM |
| KHHT-FM | KLOB-FM |
| KHHZ-KHSL-KMXI-KPAY/Chico | KLOC-AM/Hughson |
| KHJ-AM/Los Angeles | KLOS-FM/Los Angeles |
| KHKK-FM/Modesto | KLVE-KTNQ/Glendale |
| KHSL & KNVN-TV/Chico | KLXR-AM/Redding |
| KHTK-KNCO-KSFM-KZZO/Sacramento | KMAX-TV31/Sacramento |
| KHTN-FM/Merced | KMET-AM 1490/Redlands |
| KHTY-AM/Bakersfield | KMEX-TV |
| KHUM-FM | KMEX-TV/Los Angeles |
| KIBS-KBOV/Bishop | KMGV-FM/Fresno |
| KIDD-AM | KMIR-TV 6/Palm Desert |
| KIDI-KTAP/Santa Maria | KMJ-AM/Fresno |
| KIEM-TV 3/Eureka | KMJE-FM/Yuba City |
| KIFM-KNSN-KSOQ/San Diego | KMKX-FM |
| KIGS-AM/Hanford | KMLA-FM |
| KIIS-FM | KMLA-FM/Oxnard |
| KION-TV/Salinas | KMMT-FM |
| KIQI-AM/San Francisco | KMPC-KYPA/Los Angeles |
| KIRN-AM | KMTG-FM |
| KISQ-FM/San Francisco | KMTP-TV |
| KIST-KTYD/Santa Barara | KMUD-FM/Redway |
| KIXE-TV 9/Redding | KMYC-KOBO/Marysville |
| KJDX-FM | KMYX-AM & FM/Bakersfield |
| KJEE-FM | KNAH-FM |
| KJJZ-FM | KNAH-FM/Merced |
| KJLA-TV/Los Angeles | KNBC-TV 4/Burbank |
| KJMB-FM | KNBC-TV 4/Burbank |
| KJNY-FM/Eureka | KNBC-TV 4/Burbank |
| KJSN-FM | KNBC-TV4/Los Angeles |

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| KNCO-AM/Grass Valley | KRTH-FM 101/Los Angeles |
| KNCR-AM/Fortuna | KRTO-FM |
| KNDL-FM/Angwin | KRVR-KVIN/Modesto |
| KNNN-KQMS-KRDG-KRRX-KSHA-/Redding | KRVU-TV 30/Chico |
| KNSD-TV 7/San Diego | KRXV-FM |
| KNSO-TV51/Fresno | KRZZ-FM/San Francisco |
| KNTV-TV11/San Jose | KSAN-FM/San Francisco |
| KNX-AM | KSBL-FM/Santa Barbara |
| KNX-AM CBS/Los Angeles | KSBR-FM |
| KNX-AM/Los Angeles | KSBR-FM |
| KNXT-TV/Fresno | KSBW-TV8/Salinas |
| KOCE-TV/Orange County | KSBY-TV /Santa Maria-Action News Daybreak |
| KOLA-FM/Redlands | KSBY-TV3/Santa Barbara |
| KoreAm Journal | KSCI-TV |
| KOSS-AM/Palmdale | KSCI-TV |
| KOVR-TV 13/Sacramento | KSCI-TV |
| KOWL-KRLT/South Lake Tahoe | KSCO-AM/Santa Cruz |
| KOZT-FM | KSDO-AM/San Diego |
| KPAT-FM | KSEA-FM |
| KPBS-FM & TV/San Diego | KSEE-TV |
| KPCC-FM | KSEH-KWST/El Centro |
| KPCC-FM | KSES-FM/Monterey |
| KPCC-FM/Pasadena NPR | KSFO-AM/San Francisco |
| KPFA-FM/Berkeley | KSGN-FM/Redlands |
| KPIG-FM/Gilroy | KSIQ-FM |
| KPIX-TV5/San Francisco | KSJV-FM |
| KPLM-FM | KSJX-AM |
| KPOO-FM/San Francisco | KSLY-FM/San Luis Obispo |
| KPRL-AM | KSMS & KDJT-TV 67/Monterey |
| KPRO-AM | KSMX-KSMY-KSNI-KXFM/Santa Maria |
| KPRZ-AM | KSON-FM |
| KPSP-TV/Thousand Palms | KSQQ-FM |
| KPTR-AM | KSRO-AM/Santa Rosa |
| KPYG-FM | KSRW-TV /Bishop |
| KQCA-TV 58/Sacramento | KSSE-FM |
| KQCM-KXCM/Twenty-nine Palms | KSSI-FM |
| KQED-FM/San Francisco | KSSJ-FM/Sacramento |
| KQED-TV/San Francisco | KSUE-AM/Susanville |
| KQEQ-AM | KSVY-FM |
| KQLB-FM | KSWB-TV/San Diego |
| KQMS | KSWD-FM |
| KRAB-FM/Bakersfield | KSYC-FM/Yreka |
| KRBS-FM | KTAS-TV |
| KRCA-TV | KTDD-AM |
| KRCA-TV 62/Burbank | KTDE-FM |
| KRCB-FM/Rohnert Park | KTEH-TV |
| KRCB-TV | KTHO-KRLT/South Lake Tahoe |
| KRCR-TV 7/Redding | KTIE-AM |
| KRDU-AM | KTLA 5 Morning News |
| KRET-TV/Palm Desert | KTLA-TV |
| KRJY-AM | KTLA-TV |
| KRLA-AM/Glendale | KTLA-TV 5/Los Angeles |
| KRON-TV 4/San Francisco | KTLA-TV 5/Los Angeles |
| KROP-AM | KTLK-AM |
| KROQ-FM/Burbank | KTLN-TV 68/San Rafael |
| KRRS-AM | KTLW-FM |
| KRSH-FM | KTMS-AM/Santa Barbara |

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| KTOM-FM/Salinas | KYAA-AM |
| KTOR-FM/Westwood | KYCC-FM/Stockton |
| KTRB-AM/San Francisco | KYIX-FM/Chico |
| KTSB-TV 43/Goleta | KYPA-AM/Los Angeles |
| KTSF-TV 26/San Francisco | KZSC-FM |
| KTTV-TV | KZSF-AM/San Jose |
| KTTV-TV Fox 11/Los Angeles | KZSJ-AM |
| KTVU-TV 2 Fox/Oakland | KZSQ-FM |
| KTWV-FM | KZSU-FM/Palo Alto |
| KTXL-TV Fox 40/Sacramento | KZYX-FM/Philo |
| KUBA-AM | L.A. 18 Mandarin Evening News |
| KUBB-FM/Merced | La Canada Flintridge Outlook Weeklies |
| KUCR-FM/UC Riverside | La Oferta |
| KUFW-FM/Visalia | La Opinion |
| KUHL-AM/Santa Maria | La Prensa Hispana-L.A. |
| KUIC-FM/Vacaville | La Voz |
| KUKI-KDAC/Lakeport | La Voz Bilingual Newspaper |
| KUOP-KXJZ-KXPR/Sac-Stktn | Laguna Beach Independent |
| KUOR-FM | Lakewood Community News |
| KUOR-FM | Lamorinda Sun |
| KURQ-FM/San Luis Obispo | Larchmont Chronicle |
| KUSC-FM/Los Angeles | Lassen County Times |
| KUSF-FM/University of SF | Latitude 38 |
| KUSI-TV/San Diego | Latitude 38 |
| KUSP-FM/Santa Cruz | Latitude 38 |
| KUVI-TV 45/Bakersfield | Latitudes & Attitudes |
| KUVS-TV 20/Sacramento | Life Newspapers |
| KUZZ-AM & FM/Bakersfield | Lodi News-Sentinel |
| KVCR-FM/San Bernardino | Lompoc Record |
| KVCR-TV/San Bernardino | Los Angeles Daily News |
| KVEA & KWHY-TV 22/Burbank | Los Angeles Garment & Citizen |
| KVEA-TV | Los Angeles Sentinel |
| KVEA-TV | Los Angeles Times |
| KVEC-AM | Los Angeles Times |
| KVER-TV4/Palm Desert | Los Angeles Times |
| KVIP-AM/Redding | Los Angeles Times |
| KVMD-TV/Joshua Tree | Madera Tribune |
| KVML-AM/Sonora | Malibu Times |
| KVMR-FM | Manila Mail |
| KVNR-AM | March AFB Beacon |
| KVON-KVYN/Napa | Marin Independent Journal |
| KVPR-FM/Fresno | Mariposa Gazette |
| KVPT-TV | Martinez News-Gazette |
| KVYE-TV 7/EI Centro | Marysville Appeal-Democrat |
| KWAV-FM/Monterey | Mattos Newspapers |
| KWKU-KWKW-AM/Los Angeles | Mendocino County Observer |
| KWMR/Pt. Reyes Str. | Menifee Post |
| KWNE-FM/Ukiah | Metro Santa Cruz |
| KWXY-FM/Cathedral City | Metro Silicon Valley |
| KXEX-AM | Metropolitan News Company |
| KXFG-FM | Mid Valley Publishing/Sanger |
| KXFX-FM/Santa Rosa | Mid-Valley Publications |
| KXMX-AM | Middletown Times Star |
| KXO-AM & FM/EI Centro | Military Press |
| KXOL-FM | Modesto Bee |
| KXRD-FM/Yucaipa | Modesto Bee |
| KXTV-TV | Modoc County Record |

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| Mono Lake Newsletter | Press Banner |
| Montecito Journal | Press-Telegram |
| Monterey County Weekly | Press-Telegram |
| Mornings on 2-KTVU/Oakland | Rabbit Creek Journal |
| Morris Multimedia | Rafu Shimpo |
| Mother Jones | Ramona Sentinel |
| Mount Shasta Area Newspaper | Ranch & Coast |
| Mountain Democrat/Placerville | Random Lengths |
| Mountain Echo/Fall River Mills | Redding Record-Searchlight |
| Mountain Messenger | Redwood Times |
| Mountain View Voice | Redwood Times |
| National Bowhunter | Register-Pajaronian |
| New Armenia Daily | Retired DFG Biologist |
| News for Chinese | Review/Beacon Publishing |
| News Review | Rifle Shooter |
| NikkeiWest | Riverside Press-Enterprise |
| North Bay Bohemian | Riverside Press-Enterprise |
| North Coast Journal Weekly | Robb Report |
| North County Times | Rusty Faulk Outdoors |
| North Valley Community News | Sacramento Bee Features |
| Northern California Journal | Sacramento Gazette |
| Not Born Yesterday | Sacramento News & Review |
| Oasis TV | Sacramento Observer |
| OC Weekly | Sacramento Valley Mirror |
| Orange County Register | Saigon Times |
| Orange County Register | Salinas Californian |
| Orange County Register | San Clemente Times |
| Orange County Register Community | San Diego CityBeat |
| Newspapers - North | San Diego Community Newspaper Group |
| Original Productions | San Diego Magazine |
| Pacific Citizen | San Diego Ranch Coast Newspaper Group |
| Pacific Sun | San Diego Reader |
| Pacifica Community Television | San Diego Union-Tribune |
| Pacifica Radio Network | San Diego Union-Tribune |
| Palisadian Post | San Diego Union-Tribune |
| Palo Alto Daily News | San Diego Union-Tribune |
| Palo Alto Daily Post | San Diego Union-Tribune-Sac. Bureau |
| Palo Alto Weekly | San Fernando Sun |
| Palo Verde Valley & Quartzsite Times | San Francisco Bay Guardian |
| Paradise Post | San Francisco Chronicle |
| Pasadena Star-News | San Francisco Magazine |
| Peninsula Almanac | San Francisco Recorder |
| Peninsula People | San Jose Mercury News |
| Perris Progress and City News | San Jose Mercury News |
| Personal Watercraft Illustrated | San Luis Obispo Tribune |
| Personal Watercraft Illustrated | San Marino Tribune |
| Petaluma Argus-Courier | San Mateo County Times |
| Petersen's Hunting | San Mateo County Times |
| Piedmont Post | San Mateo Daily Journal |
| Pinnacle | San Vicente Valley News |
| Pioneer Press | Santa Barbara Daily Sound |
| Pleasanton Weekly | Santa Barbara Independent |
| Pomeroado Newspapers | Santa Clara Weekly |
| Porterville Recorder | Santa Clarita Signal |
| Powerboat | Santa Cruz Sentinel |
| Powerboat Magazine | Santa Cruz Sentinel |
| Presidio Sentinel | Santa Maria Sun |

Santa Monica Daily Press
Santa Monica Observer
Santa Monica Observer
Santa Ynez Valley Journal
Santa Ynez Valley News
Science Today
Seedling News
Sentinel Printing & Publishing Co.
Sentinel Weekly News
SF Weekly
Shotgun Sports Magazine
Siam Media Weekly Thai Newspaper
Sierra Magazine
Sierra Magazine
Sierra Mountain Times
Sierra Star
Sierra Sun
Signal Tribune
Silicon Valley Community Newspapers
Silicon Valley Community Newspapers
Snow Goose Productions
Sonoma Index Tribune
Sonoma Valley Sun Newspapers
Sonoma West Times and News
South County Newspapers
Southern California InFocus
Southern California Life After 50
Sports Afield Magazine
SportsTravel
Stockton Record
Stockton Record
Stratosphere
Sun Post News
Sun-Reporter Publishing Company
Tahoe World
Tehachapi News
The Almanac
The Kyocharo News
The Leader
The Log - San Diego Edition
The Mission News Group
The Monterey County Herald
The Orange County Register
The Outdoor Channel
The Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley Journal
The Quarterly Magazine
The Record-Gazette
The Reporter
The Tavis Smiley Show
These Days
This Week In Northern California

Tiburon Ark
Tidings
Times Media Inc.
Times Publishing Group
To The Point
Today In L.A.-KNBC
Toffa International
Town Crier
Tracy Press
Trailer Boats
Trailer Boats
Tri-City Voice
Tulare Advance-Register
Vacaville Reporter
Vallejo Times-Herald
Valley Community Newspapers
Valley News Group
Valley Post
Valley Springs News
Valley Voice
Valley Wide Newspapers
Vanishing Landscapes
Vegetarian Times
Ventura Breeze
Vida En El Valle
Viet Bao Daily News
Vietnam - The Daily News
Vietnam Liberty News
Visalia Times-Delta
Visitacion Valley Grapevine
Vista L.A.
Walnut Creek Journal
Watercraft World
Weekly Calistogan
West Coast Jewish News
West County Times
Western Outdoor News
Westminster Herald
Wheatland Citizen
Which Way
Whittier Daily News
Wild Bird
Winters Express
Woodland Daily Democrat
XETV-TV 6/San Diego
XHAS-TV 99/San Diego
XLTN-FM
Yelp & Yosemite Sun Newspapers
Your Call
YubaNet.com
YubaNet.com

APPENDIX C



*Join us for a public
information and scoping meeting*
on the

Suction Dredge Permit Program

Monday, November 16 ♦ 5 p.m.

**California Retired Teachers Association Bldg.
3930 E. Saginaw Way
Fresno**

On November 2, 2009, the California Department of Fish and Game filed a Notice of Preparation of a Subsequent Environment Impact Report (SEIR) for the Suction Dredge Permitting Program. The purpose of this scoping meeting is to solicit input on the range of actions, alternatives, significant environmental effects and mitigations to be discussed in the draft SEIR.

Questions? (530) 225-2275

Web site: www.dfg.ca.gov/suctiondredge/

Will you need an accommodation in order to attend and/or participate in this event? If so, please contact Mark Stopher at (530) 225-2275. Auxiliary aides and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request.



*Join us for a public
information and scoping meeting*
on the

Suction Dredge Permit Program

Tuesday, November 17 ♦ 5 p.m.

**City of West Sacramento Galleria
1110 West Capitol Avenue
West Sacramento**

On November 2, 2009, the California Department of Fish and Game filed a Notice of Preparation of a Subsequent Environment Impact Report (SEIR) for the Suction Dredge Permitting Program. The purpose of this scoping meeting is to solicit input on the range of actions, alternatives, significant environmental effects and mitigations to be discussed in the draft SEIR.

Questions? (530) 225-2275

Web site: www.dfg.ca.gov/suctiondredge/

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*Join us for a public
information and scoping meeting*
on the

Suction Dredge Permit Program

Wednesday, November 18 ♦ 5 p.m.

**Shasta Senior Nutrition Program Center
100 Mercy Oaks Drive
Redding**

On November 2, 2009, the California Department of Fish and Game filed a Notice of Preparation of a Subsequent Environment Impact Report (SEIR) for the Suction Dredge Permitting Program. The purpose of this scoping meeting is to solicit input on the range of actions, alternatives, significant environmental effects and mitigations to be discussed in the draft SEIR.

Questions? (530) 225-2275

Web site: www.dfg.ca.gov/suctiondredge/

Will you need an accommodation in order to attend and/or participate in this event? If so, please contact Mark Stopher at (530) 225-2275. Auxiliary aides and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request.

APPENDIX D



**Initial Study,
Project Description,
Notice of Preparation
(NOP)**

available at:

**Your County Clerk's
Office**

**Dept. of Fish & Game
Regional Headquarters**
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001

Online at:
[www.dfg.ca.gov/
suctiondredge/](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/suctiondredge/)

Will you need an accommodation in order to attend and/or participate in this event? If so, contact Mark Stopher at (530) 225-2275 by Nov. 13. Auxiliary aides and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request.

You're invited...

Public Scoping Meetings Suction Dredge Permit Program

On November 2, 2009, the California Department of Fish and Game filed a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Suction Dredge Permitting Program. This begins a public scoping process that will extend through December 3, 2009.

**Three Public Information and Scoping Meetings for the program have been scheduled:
Nov. 16 in Fresno; Nov. 17 in Sacramento; and Nov. 18 in Redding.**

In addition to providing information about the permitting program and environmental impacts that may be occurring, the purpose of these meetings is to solicit input on the range of actions, alternatives, significant environmental effects, and mitigation measures to be discussed in the draft SEIR. These meetings will constitute scoping meetings for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act. Additional opportunities to provide comments exist. **Written comments (postmarked no later than December 3, 2009) may be submitted to:**

Mail: Mark Stopher
California Department of Fish and Game
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001

Email: dfgsuctiondredge@dfg.ca.gov

Monday, Nov. 16, 2009

FRESNO

5 p.m.

**California Retired Teachers
Association Building**
3930 E. Saginaw Way
Fresno

Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2009

SACRAMENTO

5 p.m.

**City of West Sacramento
Galleria**
1110 West Capitol Avenue
West Sacramento

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2009

REDDING

5 p.m.

**Shasta Senior Nutrition
Program Center**
100 Mercy Oaks Drive
Redding

Web site: www.dfg.ca.gov/suctiondredge/



Department of Fish and Game
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001

**Suction Dredge Permit
Program
Scoping Meeting
Notice**



California Department of Fish and Game
Suction Dredge Permitting Program
Draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Report
Public Scoping Meetings

5:00 OPEN HOUSE WORKSHOP

- Opportunity for one-on-one discussion with staff
- Review and discussion of materials at various stations

6:00 WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

Mark Stopher, Environmental Program Manager, DFG

- Welcome and Overview of Need for Suction Dredge Permitting Program
- Explanation of Current Moratorium on Dredge Mining

PURPOSE OF MEETING, AGENDA REVIEW & MEETING GROUND RULES

Austin McNerny, Center for Collaborative Policy - Facilitator

6:20 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUCTION DREDGE INITIAL STUDY & HOW TO COMMENT DURING SCOPING PERIOD

Michael Stevenson, Horizon Water & Environment, Project Leader

- Background & Overview of the Subsequent EIR Process
- Overview of Initial Study Findings
- How to Comment on Initial Study and Use of Scoping Comments
- Summary of Next Steps

6:45 PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FOR CLARIFICATION

Austin McNerny, Center for Collaborative Policy - Facilitator

- Review of suggestions and questions presented on index cards

7:15 OPEN HOUSE WORKSHOP

- Opportunity for one-on-one discussion with staff
- Review and discussion of materials at various stations with opportunity for further questions and clarification

8:00 ADJOURN

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT:

[HTTP://WWW.DFG.CA.GOV/SUCTIONDREDGE/](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/suctiondredge/)

WRITTEN SCOPING COMMENTS ACCEPTED UNTIL DECEMBER 3, 2009

Meeting Ground Rules

The purpose of this meeting is to solicit input from the public and interested public agencies regarding the nature and scope of environmental impacts to be addressed in the draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) and regulation amendments. Additionally, the workshop provides an opportunity for the Department of Fish and Game to share information regarding the SEIR that is being prepared for the Suction Dredge Permitting Program. Staff are present to answer relevant questions and to help the public become better informed in order to provide constructive comments to help frame the environmental analysis. Toward that end:

- Please make sure that all cell phones and pagers are on silent.
- Focus your attention on the presentation or response to questions – having side conversations distracts others in the group.
- Do not interrupt the presenter; there will be plenty of time for discussion.
- Try to focus your index card questions on those for which the response will be beneficial to the whole group. Try to make your questions clear and succinct. For site specific questions that are of personal interest to you, please talk to Department staff during the workshop time.
- Be respectful of each other and of differing points of view, especially during workshop conversations.
- Take personal responsibility for observing these ground rules, and honor our time together by keeping the meeting moving forward positively.
- Please understand that not all index cards may be responded to due to lack of time. However, staff are present following presentation for additional conversations.
- This is a workshop, not a formal hearing. No public testimony or oral comments are being recorded. Written comments are desired and will be included in the Scoping Report and used to structure the SEIR.
- Demonstration posters/signs are allowable, but must not interfere with presentation and/or present a safety concern.
- The facilitator may ask individuals who do not abide by these rules to leave the workshop.

APPENDIX F

Suction Dredge Permit Program

Subsequent Environmental Impact Report

Scoping Meetings

November 16-18, 2009



Welcome & Opening Remarks

Need for Program

Fish and Game Code Section 5653

- (a) The use of any vacuum or suction dredge equipment by any person in any river, stream, or lake of this state is prohibited, except as authorized under a permit....
- (b) ...If the department determines...that the operation will not be deleterious to fish, it shall issue a permit to the applicant.

California Code of Regulations Section 228 et seq.

- ✓ Outlines specific requirements for suction dredging
- ✓ Supported by 1994 EIR

Need for SEIR

Karuk Tribe of California et al. v. California Department of Fish and Game

Superior Court of Alameda County Case Number RG05211597

- focused on the Salmon, Scott and Salmon River watersheds
- allegations regarding impacts to various fish species
- contended that the program violated CEQA and Fish and Game Code

Need for SEIR

December 2006 Court Order directed Department to:

- Conduct further environmental review pursuant to CEQA
- Implement, if necessary, mitigation measures to protect Coho salmon and/or other special status fish species in the watershed of the Klamath, Scott, and Salmon Rivers, listed as threatened or endangered after the 1994 EIR

Need for SEIR

In response, the Department determined:

- more than minor additions or changes to the 1994 EIR would be necessary
- statewide issues would need to be addressed
- a subsequent environmental impact report (SEIR) would be prepared

Current Moratorium

Senate Bill 670 (Wiggins):

- Signed by Governor on August 5, 2009
- Suspends suction dredge activity under existing permits
- Suspends issuance of new permits
- Remains in effect until environmental review complete

Purpose of Meeting, Agenda
Review, and Meeting Ground
Rules

Meeting Agenda

1. Purpose of Meeting, Agenda Review, and Meeting Ground Rules
2. Highlights of the Suction Dredge Initial Study & How to Comment during Scoping Period
3. Presentation of Public Comments and Questions for Clarification
5. Open House Workshop

Meeting Groundrules

- Please make sure that all cell phones and pagers are on silent.
- Focus your attention on the presentation or response to questions – having side conversations distracts others in the group.
- Do not interrupt the presenter; there will be plenty of time for discussion.
- Try to focus your index card questions on those for which the response will be beneficial to the whole group. Try to make your questions clear and succinct. For site specific questions that are of personal interest to you, please talk to Department staff during the workshop time.
- Be respectful of each other and of differing points of view, especially during workshop conversations.

Meeting Groundrules - continued

- Take personal responsibility for observing these ground rules, and honor our time together by keeping the meeting moving forward positively.
- Please understand that not all index cards may be responded to due to lack of time. However, staff are present following presentation for additional conversations.
- This is a workshop, not a formal hearing. No public testimony or oral comments are being recorded. Written comments are desired and will be included in the Scoping Report and used to structure the SEIR.
- The facilitator may ask individuals who do not abide by these rules to leave the workshop.

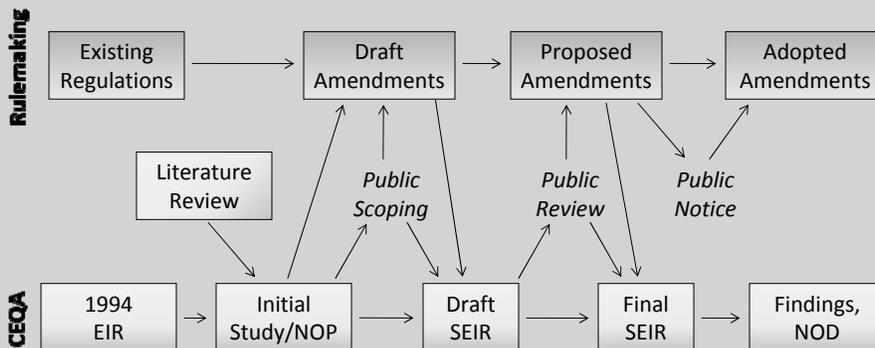
Highlights of the Suction Dredge Initial Study & How to Comment during Scoping Period

Purpose of Scoping

Provide the public and agencies an opportunity to provide input into the scope and content of the SEIR, and associated regulatory updates, including:

- ✓ Potential impacts of suction dredging
- ✓ Scope and range of alternatives
- ✓ Types or approaches to the regulatory updates
- ✓ Information regarding deleterious effects to fish, if any; and
- ✓ Types of activities to be regulated under the Department's suction dredge permit program

CEQA and Rulemaking Process



Initial Study Findings

- Looked at 17 resource categories
- Impacts to 8 resource categories are considered potentially significant as a result of the program
 - ✓ Aesthetics
 - ✓ Air Quality
 - ✓ Biological Resources
 - ✓ Cultural Resources
 - ✓ Hazardous Materials
 - ✓ Water Quality
 - ✓ Noise
 - ✓ Recreation
- Impacts to other resource categories were not considered to be potentially significant

How to Comment

- Provide comments no later than **December 3, 2009**
- Send comments to:
 - California Department of Fish and Game
 - Attn: Mark Stopher
 - Suction Dredge Program Comments
 - 601 Locust Street
 - Redding, CA 96001

 - Email: dfgsuctiondredge@dfg.ca.gov
 - Subject Line: Suction Dredge Program Comments
- Include name, address, and contact number for future correspondence related to the Proposed Program

Effective Commenting

- Substantive and focused on the SEIR analysis, and the scope and substance of the Department's related regulations under the Fish and Game Code
- Comments or information previously submitted in 2007 do not need to be repeated
- All comments will be considered during preparation of the SEIR

Next Steps and Timeline

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Scoping Period ends | December 3, 2009 |
| Public review of Draft SEIR and regulatory updates (including public hearings) | Late summer/early fall 2010 |
| Final Supplemental EIR and regulatory updates | Spring 2011 |
| File Notice of Determination and CEQA Findings | Late spring 2011 |

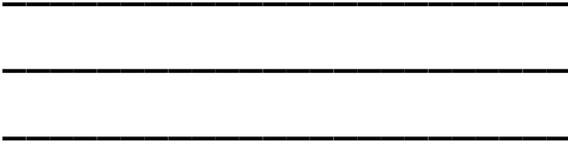
Presentation of Public Comments
and Questions for Clarification

Open House Workshop

How to Comment

- Provide comments no later than **December 3, 2009**
- Send comments to:
 - California Department of Fish and Game
 - Attn: Mark Stopher
 - Suction Dredge Program Comments
 - 601 Locust Street
 - Redding, CA 96001

Email: dfgsuctiondredge@dfg.ca.gov
Subject Line: Suction Dredge Program Comments
- Include name, address, and contact number for future correspondence related to the Proposed Program



Place
Stamp
Here

**MARK STOPHER
CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF FISH AND GAME
601 LOCUST STREET
REDDING, CA 96001**

(Fold Here)

Tape
Here -
Do Not
Staple

Frequently Asked Questions - Existing Suction Dredge Permits

(Updated November 9, 2009)

Q: Why is suction dredging now illegal in California?

A: SB 670 (Wiggins) was enacted on August 6, placing a temporary prohibition on the use of vacuum or suction dredge equipment for instream mining in any California river, stream or lake, regardless of whether the operator has an existing permit issued by the Department of Fish and Game (DFG). The temporary moratorium does not apply to suction dredging operations performed for the regular maintenance of energy or water supply management infrastructure, flood control, or navigational purposes.

Q: When does the moratorium go into effect?

A: The temporary moratorium went into effect on August 6, 2009, as an urgency measure, putting it into effect immediately upon enactment.

Q: Who is affected by the moratorium?

A: The temporary moratorium affects both individuals and companies that use vacuums or other suction dredging equipment for instream mining in any California river, stream or lake. The ban does not affect suction dredging operations performed for the regular maintenance of energy or water supply management infrastructure, flood control, or navigational purposes are not included in the ban.

Q: What if I already have a suction dredge permit issued by DFG?

A: SB 670 prohibits all instream suction dredging mining, even if the operator has a permit previously issued by DFG.

Q: Can I get a refund of fees paid for my suction dredge permit?

A: DFG can only issue refunds if authorized to do so by law. SB 670 does not provide this authority, nor does any other provision of law. DFG is therefore prohibited from providing refunds for 2009 suction dredge permit fees.

Q: When will the ban be lifted?

A: The ban will remain in effect under SB 670 until three things occur:

1. DFG completes court-ordered environmental review of its permitting program;
2. DFG updates the existing regulations governing the program as necessary; and
3. The updated regulations take effect.

The court-ordered environmental review required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is currently underway and DFG expects to complete the effort, including any updates to the existing regulations, by late summer 2011.

Q: When will the EIR be completed?

A: DFG is preparing a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to conduct the court-ordered review. DFG estimates at this point that it will complete and certify the Subsequent EIR (and updates to the existing regulations, if necessary) after a series of public meetings and other opportunities for

public comment and review by late summer 2011. The environmental review and regulation processes are governed by the California Environmental Quality Act and the Administrative Procedure Act, respectively. The time line is driven by the requirements of these laws.

Q: Why is this process going to take so long?

A: DFG has already begun the court-ordered environmental review of the existing permitting program; this was last done in 1994. The review process will be complex and lengthy given the required statewide scope of the analysis and the time that has passed since the last review. In addition to the detailed written analysis prepared by DFG in coordination with the State Water Board, the review process will also include several opportunities for public involvement, both via public meetings and through solicitation of written comments and suggestions. Initial public meetings to discuss the scope of the environmental analysis are currently being planned for November 2009 in Fresno, Sacramento and Redding. Additional details, including time and place of the meetings, will be posted on the DFG Web site, www.dfg.ca.gov, as they become available.

Q: What is DFG doing to notify suction dredge permit holders about the ban?

A: DFG staff is notifying current permit holders by mail and will contact suction dredge operators in the field as opportunities arise. Information about the moratorium is available at DFG license counters and at the DFG Web site, www.dfg.ca.gov. DFG has also issued a press release and is working with the media to make information about the new law widely available.

Q: Is there a “grace period”?

A: SB 670 was enacted as an urgency measure, putting the temporary moratorium into effect immediately. DFG wardens are authorized to issue citations to anyone found violating the law.

Q: What are the legal consequences of suction dredging now that the moratorium is in effect?

A: A violation of the law is a misdemeanor, punishable by up to \$1,000 in fines and/or six months in jail.

Q: Why has DFG stopped selling suction dredge permits?

A: Consistent with the temporary moratorium established by SB 670 DFG has ceased issuing suction dredge permits. DFG is also currently subject to a court order prohibiting the issuance of suction dredge permits. (*Leeon Hillman et al. v. California Dept. of Fish and Game et al.*, Super. Ct. Alameda County, 2009, Case No. RG09-434444.) The court order prohibits DFG from spending any money from the California State General Fund to issue suction dredge permits.

Q: Will permits be sold again in the future?

A: Permits may be sold again in the future if:

1. The temporary moratorium established by SB 670 is lifted; and
2. The *Hillman* lawsuit is no longer pending or until a further order is issued by the court.

Q: If I already have a permit, is it still valid?

A: SB 670 prohibits all instream suction dredging mining, even if the operator has a permit previously issued by DFG.

Q: Can I legally use suction dredge equipment on private property?

A: SB 670 prohibits instream suction dredge mining in any river, stream, or lake within California. The prohibition applies regardless of whether the river, stream, or lake is on private property.

Q: Can I leave my equipment in the water, as long as I'm not using it?

A: No. Vacuum or suction dredge equipment must be removed from the water pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 5653, subdivision (d). This provision of the Fish and Game Code makes it illegal to possess a vacuum or suction dredge in areas, or in or within 100 yards of waters that are closed to the use of vacuum or suction dredges. Because SB 670 prohibits instream suction dredge mining in any river, stream, or lake in California, suction dredge equipment must be removed from the water even if the equipment is not in use.

Q: How soon do I need to get my equipment out of the water?

A: SB 670 took effect on August 6, 2009, and the related legal obligation to remove vacuum or suction dredge equipment from the water took effect the same day. It is currently unlawful under the Fish and Game Code to possess any vacuum or suction dredge equipment in or within 100 yards of any river, stream, or lake in California. Any person in possession of such equipment in or within 100 yards of any river, stream, or lake must remove that equipment from the water immediately.

Q: What can I do if I see prohibited instream suction dredge mining?

A: Call Cal-Tip at 1-888-334-2258.

Q: Is high banking also prohibited?

A. There are several different methods of high banking. If you propose to use a suction dredge for high banking, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 5653(d), you must be more than 100 yards away from the active channel. Otherwise, high banking is not prohibited by SB 670. However, activities which substantially modify the bed, bank or channel of a river or stream are subject to the Notification requirements of Fish and Game Code section 1602. High banking may meet this criteria and you are advised to contact the appropriate DFG regional office for more information.

Q: Where can I find more information about this in the future?

A: Additional information can be found at www.dfg.ca.gov.

APPENDIX I

Suction Dredging Permitting Program Scoping Meeting

November 16 • 5 p.m.

FRESNO

| Name / Title | Organization / Address | Phone | E-mail Address |
|--------------------|---|------------------|------------------------|
| Jim Nedros | 31573 RD 400 COARS E GOLD, CA 93614 | 559- 6587589 | _____ |
| MARK J. VON REMBOW | 6106 N. LOT 4 ST FRESNO, CA. 93710 | 559- 974-5665 | MARK 0995@ATT.NET |
| Kenny Hall | 38591 Pine Ridge Rd Oakhurst Ca. 93644 | 859 6585256 | |
| Jeff Watson | 6000 White LN #11C Bakersfield 93309 | 661 833-0554 | |
| _____ | _____ | - | - |
| Jim LANG | 38443 CLOVER LN SQUAW VALLEY CA. | 559 730 9142 | - |
| Jim Madden | 2361 Rosewood Dr. SAN BRUNO, CA 94066 | 650 868 5574 | UPI.GOLD @Yahoo.co~ |
| MARK Pipkin | 3829 N Indiana Sanger CA 93657 | | |

Suction Dredging Permitting Program
 Scoping Meeting
 November 16 • 5 p.m.

| Name / Title | Organization / Address | Phone | E-mail Address |
|----------------------|---|-------------------|----------------------|
| KENNETH VALENTO | 11963 STATE ST #8 Columbia CA 95310 | 209 352-8579 | |
| RON KLIEWER | 35863 AVENUE 'H' YUCAIPA, CA 92399 | (951) 538-7705 | KLIEWER1@VERIZON.NET |
| Gerald Hobbs PCVP | 7194 Consejo Dr S.B. - Ca 92404 | 909 884 3039 | Jerv Hobbs2@Aol.com |
| Ray Capella | 18012 WARDWOOD MADERA | 539 674-2210 | RJC@netptc.net |
| JON EVERS | 54319 WILDWOOD SPRINGS TRAIL NORTH FORK, CA 93643 | 559- 877-4242 | 2EVERS@NETPTC.NET |
| GENE COFANTI | 705 MERCER ST FRESNO CA 93706 | 509 237-9596 | |
| Randy KELLY | 4831 N. Jackson Ave FRESNO, CA, 93726 | 559 903-9742 | ROKELLY13@GMAIL.COM |
| Robert Jorgensen | 1514 E. Belmont FRESNO, CA 93701 | 559-268-4539 | RJORGENSE@AOL.COM |

Suction Dredging Permitting Program
 Scoping Meeting
 November 16 • 5 p.m.

| Name / Title | Organization / Address | Phone | E-mail Address |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------|----------------|
| Russ Tait | Delta Gold Projects P.O. Box 1411 Columbia CA 95310 | 209-5329774 | |
| George Patchell | 2335 Judith Maderra Ca 93631 | 559 664-0140 | geo@earthmail |
| Sergio Brount- chenko | 7111 N BRIDGWOOD FRESNO CA 93711 | 559 431-7086 | — |
| ORVILLE MARY | 41210 AVE 14 1/2 MARIANA | 559 822-2262 | |
| Bob Clark | 370 Trenton Ave Clovis CA 93619 | 559 260-0921 | |
| Jerry Allen | 2041 Burl Dr Hanford CA 93230 | 559 814-7314 | |
| MARK WIFE | 160 CUMMIN ST. APT A REDWOOD CITY CA 94062 | 650-369-1151 | |
| Dun Hester | 4878 Leonard Rd Mariposa CA 95338 | (209) 626-9031 | |

Suction Dredging Permitting Program
 Scoping Meeting
 November 16 • 5 p.m.

| Name / Title | Organization / Address | Phone | E-mail Address |
|--------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------|
| Bill Verpschagin | P.O. Box 1403, ⁹⁵³³⁸ MARIPOSA, CA | 209- 966-3523 | billv@stinet |
| Paul Roberts | 6454 E Mono Fresno Ca 93727 | 559 456 9420 | Paulr123@comcast.net |
| P Ray East | 1933 Sage Rd Medford 9021 Chaparral Dr Redding CA | 530 542-5755 | dr.east@USA.NET |
| Blaze Frauentholz | 37678 Cardinal Ln Squaw Valley Ca 93675 | 559 338-3150 | |
| Rachel Frauentholz | 37678 Cardinal Ln Squaw Valley Ca 93675 | 559 338 3150 | |
| Dick Allen | 25321 Penkon Rd CASTAIC CA 91384 | 661 570 8512 | DickAllen5@aol.com |
| Rick Mahoney | 8816 N. Barton Fresno, CA 93720 | 559 298 4096 | goldman01@stcglobal.net |
| Harry J. Miller | 3065 E. Norwich Fresno Ca 93726 | 559 222 2623 | mpse007 @msn.com |

Suction Dredging Permitting Program
 Scoping Meeting
 November 16 • 5 p.m.

| Name / Title | Organization / Address | Phone | E-mail Address |
|---------------|---|-----------------|---------------------|
| Robert Young | Coldwater Gold | 209-728-8454 | R.YOUNG1738@AOL.COM |
| JOSH KLIEWER | NEW AGERS | 909.743.9632 | FOILHAT@YAHOO.COM |
| FERRY FOSTER | Fed of Ind Miners | 559 209-2802 | PERYDUD@COMCAST.NET |
| Pat Kemp | Keene Engineering | 818 993 0411 | Pat@keeneeng.com |
| Rich Ortman's | Fima | 559 298 2103 | |
| ROBERT FAMBRY | 29147 LEMAY ST WEST HILLS CA 91307 | 818 9994241 | B.FAMBRY@AOL.COM |
| Robert Stuard | 174 W. Foothill Blvd #289 Moorpark, CA 91016 | 626-358-6788 | RobertStuard |
| Jeff Baery | 11790 OLD Fiant Rd fresno CA | 559-930-8374 | |

Suction Dredging Permitting Program
 Scoping Meeting

November 16 • 5 p.m.

| Name / Title | Organization / Address | Phone | E-mail Address |
|-------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Dennis Wellington | Po Box 1963 MARION, NC 28752 | 330 518 5394 | DJwellington@ Hotmar.nc.com |
| EP RATE | 834 MCKELVY CLOVIS, CA 93861 | 559 298 8123 | TRANGOLD@ ATT.NET |
| Roger P/ATA | PO BOX 4467 Lemon Cove Ca 93244 | 559 786 9539 | — |
| DAN ANDERSON | 22225 Canones Cir Saugus Ca 91350 | 661 297 6798 | — |
| LINDA EVERS | 54319 Wildwood SPRINGS TRL NORTH FORK CA 93643 | 559 877 4242 | fevers@netpc. net |
| Bob. BARNES | 5375 N. MC CALL CLOVIS, Ca | 559 960 4210 | |
| Mike Hoken | 3734 Dukeave CLOVIS Ca. | 559-348- 9762 | |
| Jack Gooden | 3158 Nkabalga Ave Sanger Ca 93657 | | |

Suction Dredging Permitting Program
 Scoping Meeting
 November 16 • 5 p.m.

| Name / Title | Organization / Address | Phone | E-mail Address |
|-----------------|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Roy Davis | Delta Gold Diggers 8924 Hinton Ave Delhi, Ca | 209 862 5860 | Sondr Farming @ Hotmail, Com |
| TOM CHAMBERS | CONSECO GOLD PROSPECTORS CONSECO GOLD | 559- 5 212-8390 | TCPLACE@aol SBCGLOBSAC.NET |
| E. Hauser | FIM Ledy, CA | 559- 637-2006 | NUMP |
| LEROY COOK | FIM | 623-8200 | - |
| PAUL J. SPENKLE | FIM - COARSGOLD, GPAA | 557 292-0397 | |
| Charles Abus | FIM - TAFFL. GPAA BRANGE CODE | 559 626-7929 | |
| Steve Backner | GOLDEN BARBIO 5114 W. INDEPENDENT AVE | 559-2249112 | |
| DAVID HESTER | 4878 LEONARD RD MARIPOSA, CA 95338 | 209-966-6901 | |

Suction Dredging Permitting Program
 Scoping Meeting
 November 16 • 5 p.m.

| Name / Title | Organization / Address | Phone | E-mail Address |
|-------------------|--|--------------|---------------------------|
| Tommy Guevara | 3852 F. CLINTON AVE FRESNO CA 93703 | 559-4865523 | |
| Roland Brady | Brady & Associates | 284-1501 | brady-geology@msn.com |
| Kent R. Mason | 6000 WHITE LN 1-A BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309 | 661-578-8444 | KENTMASON2005 @AOL.COM |
| MICHAEL LAMB | 2510 LOVE AVE REDFEY | 559-260-7689 | MLAMB2005@AOL.COM |
| Jim PARKER | 10521 STEERAZA VIEW MADERA, CA | 435-7654 | jparker36@HOTMAIL.COM |
| John L. Swicegood | 712 Watson Ave Madera, CA 95358 | 209-538-7936 | baldeag1e576365@yahoo.com |
| Jerry McFeever | 5052 N CORNELINA FRESNO CA 93722 | 559-903-4842 | |
| HARRY KOZAROFF | CLUB 11717 GROVERALE PK. WHITTIER, CA. 90604 | 909-229-8585 | |

Suction Dredging Permitting Program
 Scoping Meeting
 November 16 • 5 p.m.

| Name / Title | Organization / Address | Phone | E-mail Address |
|-------------------|--|----------|---------------------------|
| VINCENT LANDOLINO | 2999 E. SWIFT AVE FREMONT CA 93726 | 744-1191 | USERCONTENT@SBCGLOBAL.COM |
| KELLY HALL | 39391 PINE RIDGE RD OAKLAND, CA 95644 | 603-0570 | CLAIMJUMPER@NCTV.COM |
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Suction Dredging Permitting Program
 Scoping Meeting
 November 16 • 5 p.m.

| Name / Title | Organization / Address | Phone | E-mail Address |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| MIKE ROACH | 36647 LEXINGTON AVE MADERA CA 93636 | | |
| Steven + Nancy Foster | 13210 UVAS RD. Morgan Hill CA 95037 | 408 623-2417 | Stinson 6639 M @ Yahoo.com |
| DAVE CREESE | 4664 N. Garfield CUP. | 875-1618 | creature_teacher@ msn.com |
| DAVID R. KERBER | 9360 N. BLACKSTONE #127 FRESNO, CA. | 559) 2840546 | |
| TEO JOHNSON | 15469 EAST BELMONT SANGER CA. | 559-291-8062 | iwth559@yahoo.com |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Suction Dredging Permitting Program
 Scoping Meeting
 November 16 • 5 p.m.

AULIGHTNING

| Name / Title | Organization / Address | Phone | E-mail Address |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Araucan | 505 4th St. Orange Cove, CA 93646 | 557 626-7929 | AULIGHTNING @ Yahoo.com |
| | | | |
| | | | |
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Suction Dredging Permitting Program
 Scoping Meeting
 November 16 • 5 p.m.

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SUCTION DREDGE SCOPING MEETING
SACRAMENTO

11/17/09

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| 5 Al Easterbrooks | 215 Park St Wadi, CA 95240 | 209 747 6252 | |
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